

## IMF team arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) arrived here Tuesday to attend the Nov. 8-11 conference on Jordan's Five-Year National Development Plan. The IMF delegation is led by Mr. Abdul Shukor Al Shalan. In an interview with Petra, Mr. Shalan praised Jordan's economic policies, which he said, have won the support of the IMF. Jordan is among those Arab countries considered to be able to manage its own economic affairs under the present conditions prevailing in the region. Mr. Shalan said. He pointed out that Jordan had properly utilised the remittances of its expatriate manpower and had been able to cope with the international recession and decline in foreign aid. Mr. Shalan described the Kingdom's five-year development plan as ambitious and said it aimed at increasing the national productivity based on one of the most fundamental elements of development — raising the standard of human resources. He said the inclusion of development plans to the West Bank in the plan was a step in the right direction.

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## Iran says it 'expelled McFarlane'

NICOSIA (AP) — The speaker of the Iranian parliament said Tuesday that Iran had arrested, killed and then expelled a special envoy sent by U.S. President Ronald Reagan who had come in an attempt to improve relations. The official news agency identified the envoy as former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, but did not specify when the expulsion took place. Al Shiraa, a Lebanese weekly magazine, said in its latest edition that Mr. McFarlane visited Tehran in September and stayed in the Independence Hotel, formerly the Hilton (See page 2). Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Majlis, said Mr. McFarlane and four other American citizens arrived in Iran recently illegally under the cover of a flight crew, the Iranian news agency said. According to the agency, Mr. Rafsanjani said Mr. McFarlane and his companions were imprisoned in Iran for five days and afterwards deported. He said they had gone to Tehran with a message for Iranian officials calling for improvement of U.S.-Iran relations. Al Shiraa said Mr. McFarlane had travelled to Tehran to discuss an end to Iranian support for extremist groups and provided U.S. military spare parts as encouragement.

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## King visits GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, visited the Army Headquarters in Amman Tuesday and met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. The meeting was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasbi.

## Cabinet meets on higher education

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Tuesday and discussed higher education policies in the Kingdom. Minister of Higher Education Nasseruddin Al Assad gave a detailed explanation about his ministry's policies.

## Romanian minister begins visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Romanian Minister of Youth Niko Ceausescu arrived in Amman Tuesday on a four-day visit to Jordan during which he will hold talks with Jordanian officials on cooperation in youth and sports affairs. The Romanian minister will hold talks with his counterpart Eid Dahiyat. Mr. Dahiyat was at the airport to welcome Mr. Ceausescu along with other senior officials. The Romanian minister will also tour a number of sports and youth facilities and archaeological and tourist sites in the Kingdom.

## Atiqi delivers message to Khamenei

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — An adviser to the Kuwaiti ruler, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on Tuesday delivered Kuwait's invitation for Iranian President Ali Khamenei to attend an Islamic summit meeting, Tehran Radio reported. The radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Abdul Rahman Al Atiqi also extended Sheikh Jaber's "warm greetings" to Mr. Khamenei and expressed his "interest to discuss the expansion of relations between the two countries."

## Western leaders to meet in June

ROME (R) — The Western world's seven leading economic powers will hold their next summit meeting in Venice from June 8 to 10 next year, the Italian Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. The heads of the group of seven — the United States, Italy, France, West Germany, Britain, Japan and Canada — will meet for three days on the island of San Giorgio in the Venetian lagoon.

## Gorbachev voices support for ANC

MOSCOW (AP) — The official news agency TASS reported Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev gave Oliver Tambo, head of South Africa's opposition African National Congress, a show of support Tuesday during a Gremfin meeting. "Gorbachev expressed solidarity with the courageous struggle of the South African patriots against the inhuman apartheid system," the agency said.

## INSIDE

Journalists deplore Israel's expulsion order against West Bank editor, page 2  
Financial community describes lowering of interest rates as effective step, page 3  
COMECON and the Arab World, page 4  
The real cost of tobacco, page 5  
White Crusader edges Canada 11 in America Cup, page 6  
Egypt discovers large oilfield, page 7  
Philippines sets date for referendum, page 8

# 10 killed, 29 hurt in new flare-up at Bourj Al Barajneh

BEIRUT (AP) — A sudden outbreak of mortar and rocket battles between Palestinian fighters and Lebanese militiamen in Beirut's southern slums killed 10 people and wounded 29 Tuesday, police said.

The casualties upped to 23 killed and 99 wounded the overall toll from the fighting that broke out last Wednesday evening around the Palestinian refugee camp of Bourj Al Barajneh. A spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said the exchange was triggered at 1:35 p.m. when two 60-millimetre mortar rounds fired by Shiite Amal militia gunners slammed into a playground in the camp killing four children and injuring 11.

"The 11 children are in critical condition," the spokesman told AP by telephone. "We responded in kind to provocative shelling," said the spokesman.

Amal, the mainstream Shiite militia of Justice Minister Nabih Berri, accused PLO fighters of opening fire first.

"The Palestinians opened fire

and other medical centres in west Beirut.

The exchange broke out in the "early afternoon rush hour when students and employees were returning home, which resulted in the high casualty toll," the police source explained.

The hostilities shattered a relative lull which had prevailed over southern Beirut for two days and interrupted traffic along the highway which leads to the city's only airport.

An airport official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said "screaming passengers and employees ducked for cover when stray machine gun rounds hit the departure lounge." However, no casualties were reported in the airport, he said.

The pro-Syrian Amal has sporadically fought Palestinians in Lebanon since May 1985 with the declared aim of preventing PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat from rebuilding a Lebanon power base that Israel dispersed in its 1982 invasion.

At least 860 people have been killed and 2,329 wounded in the Amal-Palestinian warfare in Beirut, by police count.

indiscriminately on the residential districts of Beer Abed, Haret Hreik and Ghobeiry," Amal said in a statement.

The three low-income predominantly districts surround Bourj Al Barajneh, which houses 50,000 people, including 11,609 Palestinian refugees registered with the United Nations.

Police said six civilians were killed and 18 wounded in the Palestinian shelling of the three crowded districts.

The Lebanese casualties included four members of a family who "died instantly" when a rocket fired by Palestinians slammed into their apartment in Beer Abed, said a police source.

Dozens of ambulances and private cars, sirens wailing and horns honking, brought casualties from the battle zone to the American University Hospital

## Moscow pursuing call for preparatory committee on Mideast conference

By Lamis K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Soviet Union is actively pursuing its proposal to set up a preparatory committee comprising of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to pave the way for convening an international conference on the Middle East despite the failure of the Oct. 11-12 U.S.-Soviet summit in Iceland. Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk said Monday.

Speaking at a press conference at his residence Monday night, Mr. Zinchuk said Moscow hoped that the stalemate at Reykjavik summit would not reflect negatively on efforts to solve regional conflicts, including the Middle East problem.

The ambassador said the Soviet leadership had already consulted

with Arab leaders and other concerned parties over Moscow's proposal for a preparatory committee to convene an international conference.

The Soviet proposal was put forward in July this year when French President Francois Mitterrand visited Moscow and held talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. While Mr. Mitterrand supported the proposal, the U.S. and Israel rejected it.

However, his Majesty King Hussein said in a speech to Parliament earlier this week that Washington and Moscow had agreed on the board principles of an international conference and that Jordan supported the Soviet call for a preparatory committee if the formation of such a committee was deemed essential for the success of Arab-Israeli peace talks.

In his press conference on Monday, Mr. Zinchuk strongly denied that his country was planning to resume diplomatic relations with Israel — a condition put forward by the Jewish state as the price for Soviet participation in an international conference.

The ambassador said the Soviet Union was holding continuous consultations with Jordan on the means to find a just and durable settlement to the Palestinian problem and convene the proposed international conference. He said such consultations were "not only going through the embassy but also through the special Soviet envoys who visited the region recently."

Mr. Zinchuk said the Soviet Union would not be able to attend

## Britain to consider Soviet request over El Al case

VIENNA (Agencies) — Britain is to consider a Soviet request for more evidence about Nezar Hindawi, an Arab whose conviction in an alleged bomb plot against an Israeli airliner in London led to the rupture of diplomatic relations between Britain and Syria, British officials said Tuesday.

The officials, quoted by Reuters, said the request was made to British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze when the two men met here on Tuesday.

The two ministers, who also discussed a range of other subjects, are attending a European security review meeting here.

Syria has warned the United States, Britain and their allies that it is the "powderkeg" of the Middle East and could explode in the faces of those who link Syria with international terrorism.

Damascus Radio said in a commentary Monday that a campaign was aimed at terrorising Syria to "force it to change its political line" and enter into "surrenderist negotiations with Israel."

"Syria is the powderkeg of this region and those who play with this powderkeg will see it explode in their faces," it said. "Each... will be held responsible for the consequences of their actions."

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz claimed Monday Syria had been "caught red-handed" in the alleged London bomb plot and vowed the United States would take further action in response.

But attacking congressional cuts in the foreign aid and State Department budgets, Mr. Shultz complained that "America's hands seem financially tied in the battle against terrorism."

"In effect, we are being asked to play Russian roulette with our international interests and our national security."

The Soviet Union's ambassador to Egypt Genady K. Zhuravlev charged Tuesday that Britain's severance of diplomatic relations with Syria was an act of state terrorism.

At a press conference in Cairo, Mr. Zhuravlev took Britain to task for breaking off diplomatic ties with Syria over what he termed an individual act of terror not proved to have been engineered by the Syrian government.

"We should consider this act (by Britain) as not the struggle against individual terrorism but as an act of state terrorism," the ambassador said.

He said Moscow considers that punishing a sovereign country for an individual's act of terror is "provocative, destabilising and aggravating (to) the current political situation in the Middle East."

"The connection between any government and any individual terrorist act should be proved, and it wasn't done in the case of the British government action against Syria."

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday Israel was not frightened by the prospect of a military conflict with Syria and believed it could win.

## Security conference opens in Vienna

VIENNA (R) — The 35-state European Security Conference opened in the historic splendour of Vienna's Hofburg Palace on Tuesday with a call to inject a new sense of urgency into realising the 1975 Helsinki accords.

Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, in an opening address, said the duty of the conference was to help "strengthen peace in Europe and limit the damaging results of the division of the continent."

The meeting, the third follow-up to the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), is attended by all the states of Europe except Albania as well as by Canada and the United States.

Western states say they will concentrate on showing up the alleged failure of Soviet bloc countries to comply with human rights commitments, while Communist countries will seek to put the emphasis on security and disarmament.

The opening week of the conference, due to last until late next year, is the occasion for a flurry of bilateral meetings, including two sessions between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who was meeting British and West German foreign ministers on Tuesday, was scheduled to see Mr. Shultz on Wednesday evening.

## Mochtar, ending visit, sees high prospects for Indonesia-Jordan ties

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja left Amman for Baghdad after a three-day visit to Jordan on Tuesday striking a highly positive note over prospects for increased trade and economic cooperation between Indonesia and Jordan.

Speaking at a press conference shortly before his departure, Mr. Mochtar said his visit to Jordan was "highly positive and constructive" and that "there is a high scope to expand trade and economic cooperation between the two countries."

Mr. Mochtar, the first Indonesian foreign minister to visit Jordan, said the balance of trade was in favour of Jordan to the tune of JD 30 million to JD 16 million in the past years. Indonesia buys phosphates and fertilisers from Jordan while the main Jordanian purchases from Indonesia include timber and coffee.

Mr. Mochtar expressed hope that Jordan would increase its imports from Indonesia so that Jakarta could also boost its purchase of Jordanian products.

According to a trade accord signed earlier this year, Indonesia agreed to import 400,000 tonnes of phosphates from Jordan annually. The accord also said that an extra 200,000 tonnes were "optional" for Indonesia to import if need be, Mr. Mochtar

said Indonesia had already imported 450,000 tonnes of phosphates from Jordan this year. He explained that Jordan was not the main source of phosphates for Indonesia, which imports the material also from Tunisia and Morocco.

The Indonesian minister said he had visited the Arab Potash plant and Indonesia could also buy Jordanian potash since fertilisers were very relevant to Indonesian farmers.

He described his visit to Jordan as very constructive and said it enhanced his knowledge of Jordan.

"Despite the longstanding relations between the two countries we found out that we knew little about Jordan before the visit of His Majesty King Hussein to Jakarta last year and my current visit to Jordan," he said. "Nothing can substitute for such visits," he added.

He said that he had invited Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri to visit Jakarta but that no date was fixed yet.

Indonesia opened an embassy in Amman two years ago. Jordan recently appointed Mr. Nayef Al Mawla as its ambassador in Jakarta.

During his stay here Mr. Mochtar was received by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Mr. Masri also held talks with Mr. Mochtar.

Mr. Mochtar said his talks in

Jordan covered the recent political developments in the area and bilateral relations.

Crown Prince Hassan explained to me about the development plan for the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and about national development in Jordan in general," he said. Indonesia will not be participating in the international economic conference, which will be held in Amman between Nov. 8-11, Mr. Mochtar said but added that he had discussed with Jordanian officials prospects of cooperation and exchange of information between Indonesian and Jordanian economic planners.

Mr. Mochtar said his country supported the idea of convening an international peace conference to solve the Palestinian question. He said that Jakarta recognised the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and supported the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

The Indonesian minister said he was looking forward to "listen to what the Iraqi leaders have to say about the developments on the warfront."

Asked if he was hoping to play the role of a peace mediator between Iran and Iraq, Mr. Mochtar smiled and said: "For the time being it does not seem that this kind of exercise has any prospects."

## GCC studies Saudi move to boost oil prices

ABU DHABI (R) — Gulf Arab oil ministers on Tuesday discussed a Saudi drive to boost world oil prices through the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) by setting official prices of at least \$18 a barrel.

The oil ministers of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Qatar and Oman and new acting Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer met on the sidelines of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) summit to consider ways of boosting prices from their current range of \$13-\$15 a barrel, oil sources said.

Saudi Arabia launched a drive last week to restore official prices with a call by Sheikh Nazer for an urgent meeting of OPEC's price-fixing committee.

Since OPEC abandoned fixed prices a year ago, oil has tumbled to as low as \$9 a barrel on the free market from \$30 a barrel, eroding the income of the six GCC states.

Their annual summit talks, which began here Sunday, have focused on the Iran-Iraq war, attacks on shipping in the Gulf and economic cooperation.

The GCC on Monday called on Iran to end the war and vowed to protect their territorial waters from attacks on shipping and oil installations.

## Howe: Soviets insist on linking arms deal and SDI

VIENNA (Agencies) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said Tuesday Moscow was still insisting that any agreement with the United States on medium-range nuclear missiles must be linked with limits on Washington's "Star Wars" programme.

Mr. Howe, speaking to reporters after meeting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, also said he emphasised the importance the West puts on what it sees as a Warsaw pact superiority in conventional forces in Europe.

He was asked whether he had the impression a deal on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe was possible without a link with "Star Wars," the U.S. strategic defence initiative (SDI) project to build a space-based defence system.

"My present impression is that the Soviet Union is insisting on that linkage being maintained, which obviously we do not regard as a satisfactory state of affairs,"

## Cairo-Amman Bank opens Nablus branch

TEL AVIV (R) — The first Arab bank in the Israeli-occupied West Bank has opened after a three-week delay over Israeli restrictions on who can use it, Palestinian sources said Tuesday.

A branch of the Cairo-Amman Bank opened in Nablus on Monday, and is running smoothly, a bank spokesman told Reuters.

The spokesman denied that the delay had been due to political problems connected with the branch operations.

The bank's operations are limited to residents of the West Bank and they exclude the

Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip.

In addition, Arab residents of East Jerusalem cannot carry out their transactions in Jordanian currency like other West Bank residents. Israel maintains that they are subject to Israeli law and can only deal in Israeli currency.

A spokeswoman for the Israeli "West Bank administration" said the opening, scheduled for Oct. 16, was postponed because of technical problems. She said she was not aware of any problems involving Israeli restrictions.

## Weizman is willing for conditional PLO talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli cabinet minister Ezer Weizman, breaking with official policy, on Tuesday said he would talk with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) if the PLO recognised Israel and renounced "terrorism."

Mr. Weizman, a former defence minister and an architect of the 1978 Israeli-Egyptian treaty, said Palestinians who accepted U.N. resolutions recognising Israel and announced a halt to violence were acceptable negotiating partners.

"The minute the PLO accepts (U.N. Security Council Resolutions) 242 and 338, it is not the same PLO," Mr. Weizman told the Israel Radio. "I would be

willing to talk with that PLO."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of the right-wing Likud party and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, with whom Mr. Weizman is aligned in the Labour bloc, have said Israel's refusal to negotiate with the PLO is unconditional.

Mr. Weizman, a minister-without-portfolio, contended that plans by Israeli politicians to meet on Wednesday in Romania with PLO representatives were misguided.

The Likud leader urged Romania on Monday not to help Israelis break their country's law banning contacts with "terrorist" organisations.

## U.S. goes to polls to elect new Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Voters went to the polls Tuesday to elect a new Congress and settle a struggle for political control of the Senate that could set the tone for President Ronald Reagan's last two years in office.

Voters in 36 states were electing governors, those in 34 were choosing senators, and all 435 House of Representatives seats were being filled.

In addition, thousands of state and local elections were being held. Six states were holding referendums on establishing lotteries and Oregon voters were to decide on permitting the growing of marijuana for personal use.

If the Democrats pick up four Senate seats they will regain the majority they lost in 1980 and force Mr. Reagan to deal with a totally Democratic Congress — both House of Representatives and Senate — for the next two years.

It's all guesswork.

## Waite awaiting word from Beirut

WIESBADEN (AP) — Anglican church envoy Terry Waite said Tuesday he expected to hear within 24 hours from his contacts whether he would be going back to Beirut to negotiate the release of more Western hostages.

Mr. Waite told a crowded news conference there are "reasonably strong suggestions" that the next two hostages to be released are AP correspondent Terry Anderson and educator Thomas Sutherland.

"At the moment, the two people specifically in my sights are Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland," Mr. Waite said. "That is where our best contacts lie at the moment."

Both Americans are being held by the Islamic Jihad extremist group.

Islamic Jihad is the same group that was holding American hostage David Jacobson, who was freed on Sunday and brought to the U.S. air force hospital in Wiesbaden for medical examinations.

Mr. Waite said there was "a slight glimmer of hope for new leads" for other Western hostages in addition to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Sutherland.

Mr. Waite said he was waiting to hear from the same people who summoned him to Beirut last week just before Dr. Jacobson's release. He said he expected to know within 24 hours of Tuesday afternoon whether to return to Lebanon.

He said he had stayed in Wiesbaden with Dr. Jacobson "to be as supportive as he could be." The Anglican church envoy was asked several times about the possible role of Syria in Dr. Jacobson's release and whether Americans or Iranians were involved in the negotiations.

"At the moment it's still sensitive," Mr. Waite said. "You just can't leave a problem like that. So, I'm continuing."

Israel Radio said Tuesday Dr. Jacobson was freed by the Islamic Jihad organisation in Beirut after senior U.S. officials negotiated his release in Syria.

The unsecured report by Israel Radio's Washington correspondent said a U.S. military officer, acting under orders from the White House, visited Damascus last week for secret talks that led to Dr. Jacobson's release on Sunday.

William Casey, director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), also took part in negotiations in the Syrian capital, the radio said. It was unclear from the report whether Mr. Casey was there last week.

In Wiesbaden, Dr. Jacobson was reunited with his three children on Tuesday at a U.S. military hospital where he was undergoing medical checks after 324 days in captivity in Lebanon.



## Jacobsen's release raises questions in Paris

Grapes (white)	290 / 10	Water Melons	170 / 120
	370 / 300		200 / 120



## Thought Forum organises talks on non-violent political struggle

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Thought Forum (ATF) will hold a conference in Amman between Nov. 15 and 17 to discuss non-violent political struggle. The forum has invited 50 leading personalities and intellectuals from Arab and foreign countries to attend the deliberations.

Participants from Jordan include professors from the four universities and the Centre for

Strategic Studies, Royal Scientific Society President Jawad Al Anani, Royal Jordanian Airline President Ali Ghandour, leading bankers and economists.

The West Bank will be represented by seven participants including two religious personalities and the director of the Palestine Centre for the Study of Non-Violence, Mr. Mubarak Awad.

## Zarqa's fund-raising drive collects JD 26,000 for charity

ZARQA (J.T.) — A week-long campaign launched by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QASWF) in Zarqa Governorate to raise money for charity has collected JD 26,000 as a result of the coordinated efforts of different sectors of the public, Zarqa Acting Governor Mohammad Daba' announced on Tuesday.

He said that factories, merchants, schoolchildren, companies and banks as well as the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce and the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company were involved in the collection process. Mr. Daba' announced the results of the campaign at a meeting of a special committee formed to

supervise the fund-raising campaign. Heads of the various teams involved in the campaign reported on the work done in their districts and the amounts collected in each area.

Mr. Daba' announced that the collection will benefit 32 charitable societies which care for needy people in Zarqa Governorate.

The campaign was formally launched by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma who said that Jordanians ought to promote voluntary and charitable work to cover all sectors and to reach all needy families in the Kingdom. She called on all concerned authorities to coordinate their efforts in this respect.

## Committee to study means of upgrading nurses' training

By Abdullah Nisour  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh has decided to set up a committee to study means of upgrading nursing education in Jordan and to explore the prospect of taking in more nursing candidates.

The committee will group representatives of the University of Jordan, the University of Science and Technology, the Royal Medical Services, the Health Ministry and the Jordanian Nurses Association (JNA). The decision was taken in view of the fact that the two banks of Jordan lack sufficient numbers of qualified nurses to staff the Kingdom's hospitals and health

centres, according to Health Ministry sources.

The sources quoted a recent study which said that the Kingdom is still in need of 3,225 nurses and midwives from now until the year 1990. The present number of midwives is 291 whilst Jordanian nurses number only 809, the source continued.

According to JMA President Hashem Salameh, nursing colleges in Jordan this year absorbed only 25 per cent of a total of 1,000 trainee applicants. He said that nursing colleges should be made to absorb more trainees, especially in the West Bank where an estimated increase of 80 per cent is required to meet the rising demand.

## Scottish week kicks off today

AMMAN (J.T.) — British Ambassador to Jordan John Coles will open Scottish week in Amman by holding a reception at the Amra Hotel on the evening of Nov. 5. Scottish traditions and culture are featured at various events in and around Amman during the Scottish week sponsored jointly by the British Tourist Authority and British Airways and hosted by the Amra Hotel.

Jacobean banquets with traditional Scottish music and entertainment will be held nightly at the Amra supported by a display of Scottish products. A series of polo matches will be held at Zarqa between a team from Scotland and the Jordanian Polo Association.

The British Council is showing three films during Scottish week, all having a humorous theme.

## Jordan to attend Arab talks on children's needs

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in a three-day Arab conference on childhood and development due to be held in Tunis on Nov. 13. The conference is being organised by the Arab League in cooperation with the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organisations (AGFUND), the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and will be chaired by Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz, president of AGFUND and honorary president of the conference.

Jordan's delegation to the conference groups the director of the Women's Department at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development Rabiha Nasser, Dr. Nassima Dawoud from the University of Jordan's Faculty of Education and Mrs. Rinad Al Khatib, director of the Dar Al Hanan model institution, representing the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's National Child Care League.

Speaking about the conference, Mrs. Khatib said it will be held in implementation of a resolution adopted by the council of Arab social affairs ministers, during the council's 15th session. She added that the conference will focus on identifying the basic needs of children through monitoring the current situation and assessing future needs.

She also said that the conference is an advanced step towards integrating the Arab League general secretariat's efforts in the field of development of human resources in general and child development in particular. Mrs. Khatib continued that the conference will translate the standard concepts as charted by the Charter of the Rights of the Arab child, approved in 1980, into practical steps governing the nature of development in this important field at the regional and national levels.

Taking part in the conference will be a number of national organisations and Arab and international figures.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Khaddam meets Jordanian ambassador

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Jordan's Ambassador to Syria Ali Khreis on Tuesday met with Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam for discussions on Jordanian-Syrian relations and means of promoting them in different fields.

### Cabinet okays memo on Indian workers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet has endorsed a memorandum of understanding between Jordan and India on regulating the employment of manpower from both countries. The memorandum, signed by the two sides in Amman last month, stipulates that all future recruitment of Indian labour workers by Jordanian employers will be through the Labour Ministry, the Indian embassy in Amman and the Ministry of Labour in New Delhi.

### Pakistani envoy congratulates Fayeze

AMMAN (J.T.) — Pakistan's Ambassador to Jordan Ehsan Rashid on Tuesday met with Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayeze and congratulated him on being reelected to his post for a new term. The ambassador and Mr. Fayeze also discussed Pakistani-Jordanian relations and cooperation in parliamentary affairs. Mr. Fayeze voiced Jordan's appreciation to the ambassador for his efforts in bolstering Jordanian-Pakistani relations. Mr. Rashid, who has served as ambassador for his country in Jordan since 1982, has been transferred to a new post at the end of his tour of office in Jordan.

### Cadets from Samar end army training

SAMAR (Petra) — A new batch of People's Army recruits graduated on Tuesday after completing a training course in the use of light arms. The graduates, who were addressed by Bani Kinana District Governor Abdullah Khasawneh, were all students from secondary schools in the district. Local government officials attended the graduation ceremony.

### Japanese team reports to Hamdan

AMMAN (Petra) — A Japanese technical team has reported to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yousef Hamdan on a study the team conducted in the Karak and Tafleh regions prior to launching development programmes there. The Japanese team will report its studies to a meeting, to be held at the regional development department and to be attended by the minister and senior aides as well as representatives of the Ministry of Planning and the districts of Karak and Tafleh.

### IDB extends 35 loans in one month

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) has extended 35 loans worth JD 88,700 to local businesses in the past month. The loans helped to finance the purchase of essential materials for workshops in aluminium, carpentry, dressmaking, photography, furniture, paint and building materials.

### Ministry to give fruit trees to Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has decided to present 2,750 saplings of citrus fruit trees to Iraq. A statement issued by the ministry said that Jordan often presents fruit trees saplings to Arab countries as gifts.

### Zarqa to check public safety standards

ZARQA (Petra) — A public safety committee in Zarqa has appealed to local factories, businesses, companies and restaurants to abide by health and sanitation regulations. In a statement, the committee said that teams will be touring different districts to check whether businesses are abiding by health and sanitary regulations and will refer violators to court.

## Hindawi asks U.S., Britain to consider rejoining UNESCO

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Tuesday appealed to those nations which withdrew from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to reconsider their decision and rejoin the organisation to help promote cooperation and understanding among world nations and achieve UNESCO's noble objectives. The appeal was made by Minister of Education Touqan Hindawi, who is also chairman of the Jordanian national committee on education, culture and science.

In a statement issued on UNESCO's 40th anniversary, the minister said Jordan supports the organisation's efforts and shares world nations' concern over the future of UNESCO's continued services and world-wide role following the withdrawal of the United Kingdom and the United States. His Majesty King Hussein has voiced Jordan's concern over this issue in a message he sent to the UNESCO director general, the minister continued.

He said that Jordan will continue its cooperation with the organisation in implementing cultural and educational projects. As part of this cooperation, the Kingdom under directives from King Hussein, last August signed an agreement to transfer UNESCO's regional office from Paris to Amman and Jordan will provide all facilities for the regional office's work throughout the Arab region, the minister said.

Forty years after the establishment of UNESCO, there is still no durable peace or stability in the Arab region due to Israel's continued occupation of Arab territory and its drive to interfere with the Arab region's religious and cultural heritage, particularly in Arab Jerusalem, the minister noted. He said that Arab heritage and holy and cultural sites are continually exposed to acts of sabotage and a drive towards Judaisation with the purpose of obliterating Arab character. The Israelis continue their arbitrary measures against the Arab inhabitants and also against the cultural and educational institutions in the occupied territory in flagrant violation of human rights and in total disregard of the indigenous people's right to education, Mr. Hindawi added.

## Financial community expects effective, beneficial results from lower interest rates

By Samir G. Ghawi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordanian financial community on Tuesday described a decision announced Monday by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) to lower interest rates on the dinar as "cautious, effective and advantageous in many aspects and, above all, a step in the right direction."

Bankers, financial analysts and economic observers who were interviewed by the Jordan Times expressed their satisfaction with the move, but some noted that it was "an overdue action" while others said they would have preferred minor adjustments to the rates.

Dr. Abdullah Al Maliki, president of the Association of Banks in Jordan, said the decision was expected since the present domestic and international circumstances warranted such a step.

Dr. Maliki, who is in favour of deregulating interest rates, said that such a stage is not really applicable at this time but that the CBJ move "was a step in the right direction."

### Competition

Dr. Maliki added that high competitiveness in the financial market and the disparity in liquidity ratios between banks and other financial companies stand in favour of the limited action.

"I cannot at present foresee any further reductions. We need to analyse the impact of the decision taken. We just have to wait for the market reaction before any other actions can be implemented," Dr. Maliki concluded.

Dr. Fahed Faneke, an independent economist, criticised the rigid response by financial authorities to market forces in Jordan. He said that authorities have also long ignored international financial developments noting that since 1983 there had been no change in interest structure.

He pointed out that when world interest rates were in the two-digit figures, interest rates in Jordan were kept at eight per cent.

Dr. Faneke appreciated the CBJ's ceiling of JD 200,000 from the rate fixing and described the

approach as "testing the water" for market forces with the view of total flotation of interest rates. He hoped that the ceiling would be reduced in the future to allow more competition.

Dr. Faneke stated that by fixing loan rates, the CBJ was being "indifferent to the market as banks, despite the low returns, would prefer to finance the public sector (under a fixed rate and a government guarantee) rather than incur private sector risks."

### Local factors

Dr. Jawad Hadid, deputy general manager of the Arab Jordan Investment Bank, said that international factors behind the decision were not as important as those envisaged locally.

Dr. Hadid cited foreign exchange stability for the dinar and economic reactivation as being the key beneficiaries of lower interest rates. He said that at this stage, the CBJ measure was enough until the impact on money inflows could be determined.

He predicted neutral public response and, at worst, a marginal decline in inflows of funds.

Dr. Hadid described the marginal 0.5 per cent surcharge

for real estate and long term credits as an "important and valuable measure" since it would rationalise lending and encourage long-term funding, rather than concentrating on short term transactions or resorting to the CBJ for rediscounting long term extensions. He said he would have preferred the surcharge to have been one per cent as it would have been more luring.

Dr. Hadid, however, did not favour the JD 200,000 ceiling as he said it would fuel banks' competition to attract the "wealthy" who would benefit from higher interest rates away from CBJ control.

Mr. Fakhri Bilbeisi, general manager of Bank of Credit and Commerce International, said that he had expected lower rates those which were announced, especially since even lower rates would have helped activities in the Amman Financial Market as funds would be recycled there faster.

### The right time

Mr. Bilbeisi added that the cut in interest rates came at the right time but, due to high cost in banking operations, he would have liked to see the spread between deposit and lending rates widened by more than one per cent. He defended his argument by saying that the spread in many countries was at least two per cent.

Predicting that the inflow and outflow of funds to and from the country would be marginal and not heavily influential, Mr. Bilbeisi stressed the importance of local economic values and foresaw another reduction in rates soon.

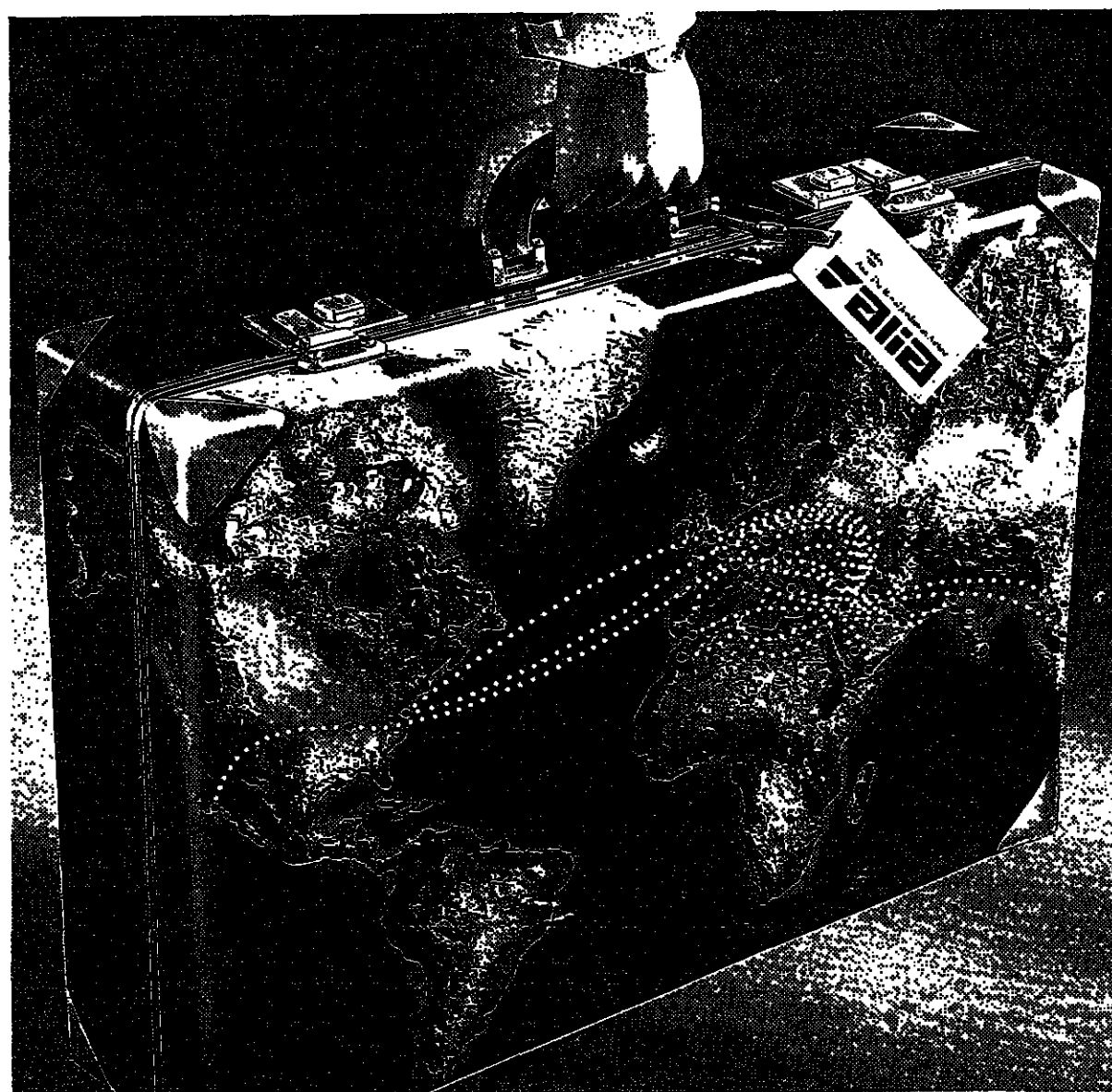
## Arab statisticians start course on survey sampling methods

AMMAN (Petra) — The Economic Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Tuesday opened at the Amman Hotel in Amman a four-week seminar on sampling techniques for household surveys.

Participants from 17 Arab countries are taking part in the training seminar which is designed to orient staff employed by departments of statistics on means of selecting samples for surveys. Addressing the opening session, Dr. Abdul Hadi Alawin, director of the Department of Statistics in Jordan, said that the seminar will help statistics departments in countries of the region conduct sound statistical surveys to help planners draw up programmes.

Jordan has turned out more than 570 qualified personnel trained in conducting surveys and handling statistics, and has offered similar training to 50 others from different Arab countries, Dr. Alawin continued.

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## Last chance to see delightful and witty exhibition of children's book illustrations

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Today, Wednesday, is the last opportunity to see a really delightful exhibition of children's book illustrations at the French Cultural Centre. Sometimes magical and mysterious, often witty and fun and as diverse in subject and style as any exhibition of modern art, the paintings and drawings are unified by beautiful and fine rendering and an attention to detail that no self-respecting drawing for a child would be without.

Attending the exhibition and giving workshops to students and school children is one of the author/illustrators of the books, Monsieur Yvan Pommaux. M. Pommaux began his career illustrating educational books, but finding that drawing circles and squares in maths books didn't interest him too much, he moved on to illustrating stories. At first he illustrated stories written by other people — who believed that a greater cohesion is achieved when both story and drawings were made by the same person — M. Pommaux began to write the stories himself. Thus began a career that started out as just a way of earning money but became one that not only occupies M. Pommaux fully but one which he

loves.

The work of M. Pommaux or rather the family of crows he writes about, either in comic strip form or in the more usual text and picture format, is well known by both children and adults all over France. So popular are his stories that two have been translated into English and are now selling well outside France. The reason for M. Pommaux's success is not hard to see for the few drawings on display are full of the colour, action and details — like the drawer that opens out of the tree — that appeal to children. Unlike some book illustrators who draw to please themselves or perhaps the critics, M. Pommaux paints to please the child. carefully evaluating how his young audience will react, while maintaining a high degree of creativity.

### The strange and mysterious

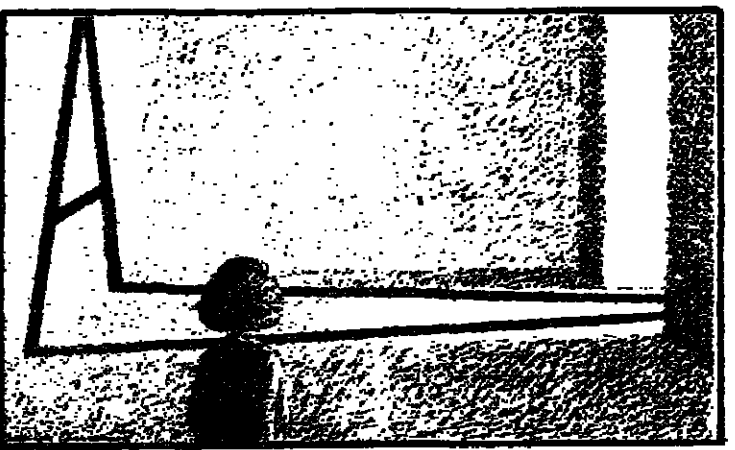
Children love the strange and the mysterious and it is with this in mind that several of the illustrators have made their drawings. Basing his work on that of the surrealists, Frederick Clement has filled his work with broken mirrors and rose trees in a rocky desert landscape, with mysterious beasts and distant tightrope walkers. Claveloux, on the other hand, in his story, "Le Petite Siren" has given the flat

sides of his floating fish little landscapes and has hidden tiny figures in shells and submerged teapots while giving the whole image such a strong feeling of what it is like to be underwater that, with very little extra imagination, the young reader can become a mermaid too.

Like Claveloux, Alain Gauthier has also drawn on the magnetic pull of the sea, turning the waves of a young girl's hair into the green and white waves of the sea, in which ghosts and people swim and on whose shore prowls a crab in a top hat, cigar clenched between teeth. It is a disturbing and powerful image but one which pales next to the work of Christine Brouin whose depiction of that favourite old time monster the Hunchback of Notre Dame is a masterpiece of excellent rendering. In it we see the Hunchback peering over the ramparts along with the other — stone — gargoyles down into the midnight blue of Paris, lit only by golden pinpoints of light that gradually fade into the distance.

Georges Lemoine has also illustrated a classic story "The Little Tin Soldier." He has caught the moment where the little, one-legged soldier is about to meet disaster as he plunges down the drain, still bravely standing in his flimsy paper boat. Like the story itself, it is an image that is both direct yet one that has many layers of meaning and, thus it appeals to a wide age range of children. Lemoine has also illustrated beautifully "Le Livre du Printemps" in which he has painted all aspects of Springtime in the country with photographic realism but which, like all hyper-real drawings, carry a greater impact.

Drawing the funniest pictures at the exhibition is Pef whose verbal and visual puns are a delight to both child and adult alike. But finally it is the interlocking animals of Dumas that epitomise the whole exhibition — wonderfully drawn, clever and fun it has been chosen as the show's advertising poster.



Georges Lemoine — Alphabet des ombres portées



## Jordan Times

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## Lower rates, brighter prospects

TWO days ago, the Central Bank of Jordan took a decision to reduce the rate of interest on the Jordanian dinar after a long period of lower rates on foreign currencies abroad.

Although the interest rate on the dinar has, for most of the time, been lower than the going rates abroad, the trend was reversed during the last two years when Jordan has experienced rates of interest higher than those prevailing on the dollar or the SDR — the Special Drawing Right.

Since 1974, and due to higher inflation, the real interest rate in Jordan was negative. Recently, however, the market began to witness a real and high interest rate due to low, or even zero, inflation in the country. This change affected companies and investors who became increasingly unable to service their debts to the banks because the interest exceeded the return on their investment. Those borrowers used to repay their loans, plus interest, in cheaper money.

This long-awaited step of lowering the interest rate on the dinar now will no doubt achieve some positive results. It will encourage investment, alleviate many of the burdens of borrowers and narrow the gap between the level of interest in Jordan and abroad. The measure is also likely to improve prices of bonds and shares, prompt a shift from financial to real investments, and last, but not least, it will test the water for a full-scale floatation of interest rates. Doubtless it is a step forward, but it should also be followed by swift measures in the direction of liberating the market and deregulating interest rates. Banks should be left to compete for customers by offering more competitive rates reflecting the interaction between supply and demand and preventing shortages and surpluses of liquidity.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Rai: A tribute to the government

THE evaluation of Jordan's achievements as contained in the King's speech from the throne delivered to Parliament on Saturday reflects the monarch's appreciation of the government's endeavours and continued efforts for the sake of promoting services to the people and carrying out development projects. The appreciation expressed by the King for the government represents a renewal of the monarch's confidence in it and a support for its programmes. In his assessment of the process of development, the King focused attention on the numerous accomplishments of the government and the efforts of the Jordanian family towards realising prosperity. The King referred to the country's wide ranging programmes in developing education, health services, youth and sports affairs, water and electricity, telecommunications and housing; and the pursuit for discovering oil. The King also referred to the government's endeavours to ensure food security by encouraging the private sector to undertake agricultural schemes and increase food production, and also voiced support for programmes designed to promote industrial production. The speech from the throne was a comprehensive assessment of the nation's achievements, and presented a general outlook for the future. In the light of this assessment it remains for us to urge the young generation to put in a greater share and help the country carry out its five-year plan to achieve further progress.

#### Al Dustour: King's speech in Arab media

KING Hussein's speech from the throne was given prominence by foreign and Arab press and radio and television media in view of its comprehensiveness and the importance of the subjects it tackled. The speech presented a general outline of Jordan's policies on the domestic, Arab and foreign fronts. Egyptian newspapers, in referring to the speech pointed out in particular to Jordan's policy towards the Palestine problem and underlined the King's affirmation that Palestine remains as Jordan's main priority and lies at the foundation of the Kingdom's politics. Saudi Arabian, Iraqi and Syrian newspapers quoted large parts of the speech in which the King reiterated Jordan's concern over maintaining solidarity among Arab states for the sake of ensuring a successful joint Arab action. The press focused attention on Jordan's adherence to the projected international conference for resolving the Middle East problem and called the Arab people's attention to the dangers that threaten them. The speech from the throne was characterised with genuine commitment to the national causes, and tackled all issues that concern the Arab Nation. For this reason it drew reaction from the Arab media which voiced support for the King's efforts. The favourable reaction to the speech clearly reflects the significant status of this country within the Arab World and also to the appreciation and respect that King Hussein receives for his policies.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: King affirms commitment

ONE of the constants in Jordan's national policies is continued support for the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. This was reaffirmed in the King's speech from the throne to Parliament on Saturday. The King made it clear that Jordan will continue to enhance the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank, and for this reason Jordan will implement a five-year development plan in the occupied territory. At the same time the King made it clear that Jordan will not act for the Palestinian people and cannot serve as a substitute for the Palestine Liberation Organisation which represents this people. The monarch also made it clear that Jordan will pursue all efforts for convening an international conference for resolving the Middle East issue. By these assertions the King has made it clear that Jordan will continue to defend Arab land and at the same time will strive to help the Palestinian people regain their rights in their homeland. Jordan, he said, will not allow the Israelis to freeze life in the occupied territory and force the Arab people to abandon their homeland, but will enable the Palestinians through development plans and other forms of assistance to bolster their steadfastness and to hold on to their land and their rights.

## COMECON and the Middle East

By Riad Khouri

THE expressions First, Second and Third Worlds were coined some time ago by European thinkers attempting to intellectualise the socio-economic fissures of the globe. The Third World also is to much with us: walk down the street in any Middle Eastern city and you will come across blatant signs of underdevelopment. And the First World is not too far away either: the meretricious Nirvanas and Eldorados of the Americans and their friends are on display in movies, magazines and elsewhere in our region.

That leaves the Second World, or "evil empire" as the White House would have it. Made up of the Soviet Union and its allies (or satellites, if you prefer NATO jargon) it has sometimes been brushed aside or deliberately ignored as an economic force. Instead many in the First World portray the Soviet Union and its friends as a sort of international bogeyman always ready to terrorise the Middle East and other developing regions. The truth of course is a lot different from this silly propaganda.

Economically, the Second World operates under the name of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA or "COMECON").

Since 1950, the national income of CMEA countries has risen nearly ninefold while the volume of industrial output has increased about fourteen times. With 455 million inhabitants, the CMEA member countries have a share of less than one tenth of world population, of 19 per cent of the earth's area, but of one-third of world industrial production.

Established as a regional organisation by six European nations in 1949 the CMEA unites today Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, Cuba, Mongolia and Vietnam. Specialisation and cooperation have successfully developed among them, above all in those branches of industry which determine technological advance. More than 100 multilateral and 1,000 bilateral agreements were concluded between the CMEA countries during the past ten years alone. In cooperation with the CMEA countries over 3,330 industrial enterprises and other establishments have been opened so far in more than 90 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and a further 500 projects have

been planned or are already under construction.

With the support of the CEMA, one million citizens from developing countries have been trained to be qualified specialists.

Naturally enough, the Soviet Union is the backbone of the CMEA, economically and otherwise. According to A. Olshany of the CMEA, the Middle East has "always played and today continues to play an important part in the foreign economic affairs of the Soviet State." Iran and Turkey were the first among the developing countries to conclude in 1921 inter-governmental agreements with the Soviet Union. Soviet exports to the Middle East countries include essentially means of production, such as machines, equipment and materials. Of total Soviet exports of machines and equipment, 50 per cent are complete set deliveries for industrial projects constructed with Soviet aid. Other Soviet exports to our region include fuel, raw materials and foodstuffs.

The Soviet market is open to the traffic of traditional export goods of Middle East countries, such as oil (from Iraq, Iran, Libya and Saudi Arabia), cotton (from Egypt, Syria and the Sudan), and raw hides (from Iran and Syria). The tendency in recent years has been to increase such purchases, as well as those of semi-fabricated and finished articles. These include cotton yarn (from Egypt and Syria), textiles (from Egypt, Iran, Syria and Turkey), knitted goods (from Egypt, Iran, Libya and Syria), carpets (from Egypt, Iran, Libya and Syria) and fish products (from Iran and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen).

Particular attention in cooperation with Middle East countries is given to developing heavy industry and agriculture, and to training nationals. In most cases, Soviet economic and technical aid is given to develop multi-purpose engineering projects rather than to construct individual enterprises.

With Soviet aid, large-scale hydraulic power developments have been undertaken in Syria and Egypt. Beside the dams, water storage reservoirs and huge power plants on the Euphrates and the Nile, these developments also include irrigation systems, a network of power transmission lines and power intensive industries. The Aswan High Dam development has the largest hydraulic power plant in the

Middle East.

The storage capacity of the water reservoir is sufficiently high to provide 55 billion cubic metres of irrigation water annually. With Soviet aid Egypt has also built power-intensive enterprises such as the Helwan metallurgical combine and an aluminium plant in Nag-Hammadi. The Aswan High Dam is a profitable development which by 1985 had repaid the cost of its construction seven times.

In like manner, the Euphrates development in Syria has a many-sided effect on the country's economy. Built with Soviet assistance, it includes an 800 MW hydraulic power plant and 12 billion cubic metre water storage capacity. The water is being used to irrigate 640,000 hectares of dry land which will double irrigated areas in Syria.

Industrial enterprises built with the help of the Soviet Union play an important part in the economy of Middle East countries. The share which the power stations built with Soviet aid contribute to total electric power generation constitute more than 60 per cent in Syria and Iraq and 45 per cent in Egypt.

Much as Soviet assistance is important in building up power generating capacities it is also valuable in prospecting and developing fuel and raw material deposits.

The Soviet Union has helped to develop the national oil industry in Syria and large scale assistance continues in prospecting and developing oil and gas deposits in Iraq, Libya and a number of other countries of the region. Iran has extended coal production in mines covered by cooperation programmes with the USSR. And the list of CMEA assisted projects in the Middle East is getting longer and covering increasing fields. So much for the "Evil Empire."

What we in the region tend to forget is how close the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe are to the Middle East. This is partly because of those two Third World standbys, ignorance and stupidity, but also a result of Western propaganda and cultural imperialism. Treating the Soviet Union and its allies as neighbours and development partners is a lot saner and more profitable in the long run than wildly clamouring to get on an American bandwagon which is ultimately going nowhere.

## Foreign correspondents face censorship problems in Israel

By Patrick Worsnip

Reuter

LONDON — Foreign correspondents in Israel say they face frustrating problems with military censorship in what claims to be the freest country in the Middle East.

Official fears that enemies could profit from certain stories often leave foreign and Israeli journalists sitting indefinitely — or until it is too late — on the news they have gathered.

The situation has been highlighted in recent weeks by severe restrictions on coverage of the case of Mordechai Vanunu, a nuclear technician who gave a British newspaper details of what he said was Israel's nuclear weapons capability.

Western journalists said the censors went beyond normal limits on the media in an attempt to suppress debate on the nuclear issue, in particular by banning repetition of previously published material.

"On the nuclear story they got kind of ridiculous," one Western newspaper correspondent, who asked not to be named, said of the censors.

Israeli officials say censorship

covers matters involving the defence and security of the country. The chief censor, Brigadier-General Yitzhak Shani, has claimed the purpose is to save Israeli lives and enable the security services to operate effectively.

The censorship laws, adapted, from those assumed by the British mandate authorities in Palestine before World War II, apply to both the foreign and domestic press.

Most Israeli publications belong to an editors' committee, which operates a gentlemen's agreement with the authorities whereby newspapers submit to the censor only material they think may violate the regulations.

Arabic publications produced by Palestinians from occupied Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank are under much stricter control and must submit everything they print to censorship, in theory even crossword puzzles.

Foreign journalists have to sign an undertaking to submit to censorship before they receive accreditation.

Officially, a wide range of topics are subject to censorship.

### Moscow pursuing call for committee

(Continued from page 1)

the Nov. 8-11 conference in Amman on Jordan's 1986-1990 five-year development plan. "We received invitation to the meeting only a few days ago and there was not enough time for the government to take a decision," he said. He said diplomats from the Soviet embassy here would attend the meeting as observers.

Asked whether there were any plans for King Hussein to visit Moscow, Mr. Zinchuk said there was an agreement in principle for the visit but no date had been set. The ambassador refused to answer questions over Jordan's arms purchases from the Soviet Union.

In reply to questions, Ambassador Zinchuk implied that Moscow was hopeful that the failure of the Soviet Union and the U.S. to reach any arms agreement at the Oct. 11-12 summit in Iceland would not affect superpower accords on settling regional conflicts.

The Iceland summit, said Mr. Zinchuk, "focused only on nuclear weapons... regional conflicts were discussed by experts from both sides" and not by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev. The talks were held before the Iceland summit, he said, and "some progress was actually made on regional conflicts."

The ambassador did not elaborate on the progress he referred to but said there were no specific U.S.-Soviet agreements on issues such as the preparatory committee for an international conference but both sides had agreed that discussions should continue.

Mr. Zinchuk pointed out that Mr. Mitterrand had supported the Soviet proposal and described the British stand on the issue as "not very negative."

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat was also reported to have supported the Soviet proposal in a meeting with a senior Soviet envoy in Algiers in August.

In reply to a question on his country's stand towards the rupture of relations between Britain and Syria, Mr. Zinchuk reaffirmed that Moscow believed that the British charges that Damascus supported terrorism was "concocted" and said the

Kremlin had warned Washington against aggression towards Syria. The ambassador refrained from answering a question what the Soviet Union would do if Syria was actually attacked by Israel.

On the internal PLO situation, Mr. Zinchuk said Moscow believed that all Arab countries should hold efforts to reunify the various factions of the PLO and "should not hinder these efforts."

The main thrust of the Soviet ambassador's press conference on Monday was a reassertion of the Soviet stand at the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting at Iceland. The meeting collapsed over Soviet objections to Mr. Reagan's strategic defence initiative (SDI) for a space-based defence shield against missiles.

Mr. Zinchuk blamed the U.S. for the failure of the talks and said that Moscow "has made many concessions in order to reach an agreement over nuclear weapons with the U.S."

Asked if the Soviet side had offered such concession at Iceland to get rid of SDI, Mr. Zinchuk said the Soviet moves were aimed at "achieving the total elimination of nuclear arms and not only SDI."

Mr. Zinchuk said that Soviet Union "must have some guarantees that there will be no cheating." He did not elaborate but conceded: "that despite the failure at Reykjavik 'both sides have made steps forward'."

Both American and Soviet arms negotiators resumed talks in Geneva two weeks ago amidst reports that the Soviets might be willing to negotiate a separate deal on medium-range missiles. But Mr. Zinchuk rejected the idea of "separating offensive and defensive weapons despite the fact that the Soviet proposals regarding intermediate missiles were still on the table."

"The idea of linking defensive and offensive weapons is an American concept," said Mr. Zinchuk, who was involved in U.S.-Soviet strategic arms limitations treaty negotiations in the 1970s. "Now, they want to separate defensive and offensive weapons," he added.

When asked about prospects of a Gorbachev-Reagan summit in the foreseeable future, Mr. Zinchuk said: "The Soviet Union would be ready to attend such a summit provided it could lead to constructive results."

including mention of censorship itself. In practice, foreign reporters say they only submit material they know to be sensitive, such as military operations, resistance attacks on Israel and arrests of attackers, as well as nuclear matters.

The organisations hardest hit, both by censors' deletions and by delays in getting copy, are the news agencies. Israeli officials say this is because they are providing a real-time news service to the country's potential enemies.

Some newspaper correspondents say they rarely bother to submit material to the censor, others that they censor themselves. "Isolate on the edge," one said.

The Vanunu affair revealed



Israeli police drag away a Palestinian youth after a bus hijack in Gaza, in April 1984. Israeli authorities first announced that the four youth who hijacked the bus were killed during the operation, but an Israeli newspaper later produced the above photo. Investigation revealed that two of the youth were killed by Israeli police after their capture. Senior Israeli officials responsible for the murder were pardoned by Israeli President Chaim Herzog (File photo)

Israeli sensitivities. The technician told the London Sunday Times that Israel had been producing nuclear warheads for the last 20 years in a secret factory underneath a nuclear research centre in the Negev desert, where he had worked.

Israel-based journalists attempting to follow up the October 5 story found that the authorities imposed blanket censorship.

Censors forbade Reuters' Jerusalem bureau to quote magazines and books freely available in Israel, or to cite a recent remark by former Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Foreign correspondents have since been banned from reporting independently on the whereabouts of Vanunu, who according to the U.S. magazine Newsweek was captured by agents of Israel's Mossad secret service in Europe and brought back to Israel for interrogation and trial.

Israeli editors said Peres personally appealed to them to play down the Vanunu story. Despite this, at least two dailies, the independent Haaretz and the left-wing Al Hamishmar, had articles on the subject censored.

Western reporters said it was long-standing practice that material published abroad or disseminated by the Israeli news media could be reported without restriction.

Censors in Israel gave no reason for the apparent tightening up, but an Israeli embassy spokesman in London suggested that even if elements of a story were harmless by themselves, run together out of context they could be censorable.

"A combination of something is not entirely the sum of its parts. It depends on how your

correspondent wrote the story," spokesman Eviatar Manor told Reuters.

Israel has always refused to comment on its nuclear capacity other than to say it will not be the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East.

Israeli officials claim that despite being in a state of armed conflict, their country has the freest press in the Middle East.

One journalist with experience of both the Arab World and Israel commented: "In Beirut, you're free to write anything you want, until someone takes offence and shoots you. In Israel, you're free to write whatever the army tells you."

No Arab country obliges foreign correspondents to submit their stories to censorship, but some have a record of expelling those whose despatches they dislike.

Critics of the Israeli system say it does not always stick to security criteria and sometimes has political aims.

In April 1984 four Palestinian youths hijacked an Israeli bus to Gaza. The military at first announced that all four died when Israeli soldiers stormed the bus, but it later turned out that two were captured alive and clubbed to death after interrogation.

The truth might never have emerged had not the then New York Times correspondent, David Shipler, ignored censorship to report the existence of photographs showing the captured youths alive.

The ensuing scandal cost the jobs of the head of Israel's Shin Bet internal security service and senior aides, and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was reportedly involved in the murders and the cover-up.

## U.S. attorney general swings to the right

By Pete Yost  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — During the past two weeks, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese wended his way through a lengthy political agenda dear to the hearts of conservatives, crossing swords with liberals on pornography, the role of the Supreme Court and management surveillance of employee drug abuse.

Along the way, he has drawn a new round of attacks from some legal scholars who feel right-wing political ideology has permeated his tenure as attorney general.

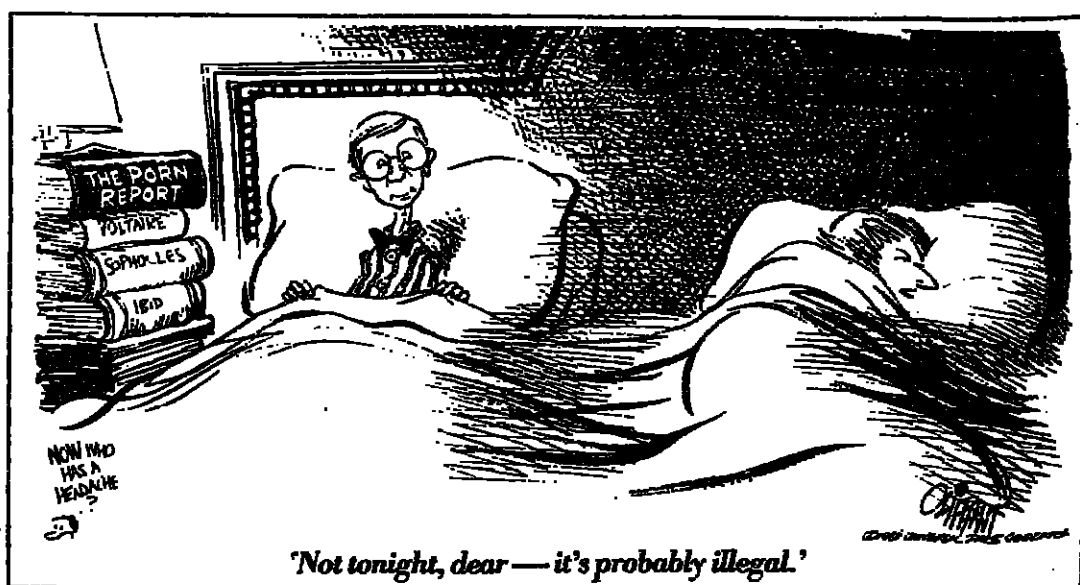
Meese's recent speeches have emphasised the message he has eagerly conveyed since becoming attorney general more than a year and a half ago: This necessity for tough law enforcement, especially in the area of drugs and violent crime.

The degree to which he has been guided by an ideological (agenda) in his public pronouncements and in his recommendations for judicial appointment and in his governmental priorities has verged on the extreme and may be without precedent in our history," said Laurence Tribe, a Harvard University law professor.

Meese spokesman Terry Eastland denies the attorney general has politicised the judicial appointment process and says that opening a public debate over the proper role of the Supreme Court is healthy for the country.

On some issues, Meese's aides seem perplexed at times that his remarks stir up so much controversy, and they occasionally try to downplay his statements.

On one such issue, Meese endorsed a wide-ranging programme to control drug use in



'Not tonight, dear — it's probably illegal.'

the workplace. News stories focused on one section suggesting that surveillance outside plant gates at corner taverns in some cases might be a sound approach. Meese aides quickly pointed out that the attorney general was simply embracing an idea favoured by a former head of the Drug Enforcement Administration and they emphasised that Meese would not recommend any "unwise or unlawful" step.

The elaboration, however, failed to stave off the ensuing criticism, as members of two business groups immediately suggested that such a step appeared too extreme.

The attorney general's involvement in the pornography issue has brought him heavy criticism, but has paid political dividends with segments of President Ronald Reagan's most conservative political constituency.

The anti-porn groups questioned the commitment of the Meese's Justice Department to engage in a campaign against hard-core pornography and many of the activists doubted he would actually try to implement the far-reaching reforms urged by his pornography commission.

It is still questionable whether the department will actually conduct a law enforcement crackdown, but Meese did embrace almost all of the pornography commission's recommendations. Those proposals already have been condemned by civil libertarians and others.

Meanwhile, the anti-porn groups, including a broad cross-section of religious leaders, publicly expressed their gratitude to Meese, saying the steps he had proposed, if taken, would help curb the hard-core porn industry.

The ongoing debate over the Supreme Court is a reflection of the Reagan government's political

views: The need to be seen as tough on crime coupled with the necessity to review the nation's approach to legal areas such as civil rights.

Critics say that while Meese's approach to law enforcement is tough, it is also highly selective. On civil rights, "Mr. Meese has repeatedly repudiated the enforcement policies of the previous six Republican and Democratic administrations," said Ralph Nease, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

"He has consistently ignored the intent of Congress when it enacted the nation's civil rights laws and he has routinely defied the decisions of the federal judiciary," said Nease.

Eastland of the Justice Department says the administration's record on civil rights has been "equal to if not superior to" that of previous administrations.



## The real cost of tobacco

Tobacco production has been considered a paying proposition. Some of the major aid agencies have encouraged and supported tobacco growing projects. Recent evidence suggests that both environmentally and financially the cost of growing tobacco is too high. The writer is a British freelance journalist and the publisher of the magazine "Agricultural Development."

By John Madeley

NAIROBI, Kenya — Smoking kills over a million people each year, says the World Health Organisation, but for the hundred or so developing countries which grow the crop, tobacco has been considered a paying proposition. Recent evidence suggests, however, that tobacco makes poor economic sense for both producing countries and its growers.

Three quarters of all harvested tobacco is turned into cigarettes and smoked in the country in which it is grown. Only five Third World countries earn significant amounts from exporting tobacco: Brazil, India, Malawi, Turkey and Zimbabwe.

In 1985, the worldwide production of tobacco leaf was 6.27 million tonnes, and there are now stocks of 7.19 million tonnes in hand — in other words, more than a year's output. This massive quantity is far larger than the equivalent stocks of any other agricultural commodity, which is an indication that tobacco prices are likely to stay low.

The world tobacco price today is around 20 per cent less in real terms than it was in 1982.

Earnings by the exporting countries will continue to be under pressure.

Moreover, smoking-related

disease is growing in Africa and the cost of that disease has to be offset against tobacco's returns. Studies for African countries have yet to be done, but work in Canada by W.E. Forbes and M.E. Thompson at the University of Waterloo refutes the idea that tobacco is beneficial.

Their study found that Canadians spent \$4,400 million in 1982 on tobacco products. But the costs of smoking, such as physicians' fees, hospital bills, drugs and administrative services, came to \$7,100 million. Canada therefore "loses" \$2,700 million a year on its tobacco industry.

It would be reasonable to expect that losses of the kind that Canada is suffering will soon apply to Third World tobacco-producing countries as well.

At present, smoking is heavier than in the Third World and the cost of treating related disease is higher. But at present rates of increase in Third World countries, it may not be long before they are experiencing the same kind of losses.

Tobacco could, however, be losing developing countries money now. The Economist Intelligence Unit in London points out that tobacco productivity in the Third World is generally low — averaging around 1,000 kilograms per hectare.

Yields of less than 2,000 kilograms per hectare are probably uneconomic, it says. "Peasants might soon start counting the cost of their own and the (unpaid) family's labour that goes into producing the crop."

One investigation in Kenya found that tobacco farmers earned less than 150 pounds sterling a year from their plots, which was only about two thirds of what coffee farmers were earning from similar sized plots.

For Third World farmers, therefore, tobacco increasingly looks like a crop that does not pay.

The environmental cost of growing tobacco is heavy, too. Over half the world's tobacco leaf is cured (i.e. made fit for cigarette production) in woodbarns and an enormous volume of wood is needed for this process.

According to a study of peasant tobacco farming in Tanzania, by J. Boesen and A.T. Mohele, on average the wood from between two or three hectares of land is needed to cure one tonne of tobacco. Thus many thousands of hectares of scarce African forest are going up in smoke to make cigarettes.

Moreover, food output is threatened by tobacco growing. In the Meru district of Kenya, for example, people say that rainfall has declined since tobacco was introduced 15 years ago. Trees that once protected good food-growing land have now gone, thus putting in jeopardy that land's ability to produce food.

Tobacco thrives in semi-arid land, but its production inevitably means that land has less



An experimental tobacco farm in the north of Jordan (File photo)

protection against the spread of desert.

Overall, the long-term economic cost of damage to a country's land seems likely to outweigh by far any return. Yet despite the increased evidence that tobacco is not a paying proposition, some of the world's leading aid organisations have continued to finance tobacco production.

For many years, it has been the policy of the World Bank and the Commonwealth Development Corporation to finance tobacco projects in the Third World. The World Bank has helped a wide range of countries to increase their output of tobacco.

Between 1974 and 1982, the Bank and its soft loan arm, the International Development Association, made loans of over \$600 million for rural development projects which included tobacco. Recipient countries included Malawi, Swaziland, Tanzania, Brazil, Paraguay, the Philippines, Pakistan, Thailand and the Yemen.

The Commonwealth Development Corporation has loaned money to Malawi and Zambia for tobacco schemes. A spokesman has confirmed that it will still be the policy of the Corporation to finance tobacco projects, because the crop is

considered of economic importance in some countries.

Tobacco does provide employment. In Zimbabwe, 17,000 people work in the industry. In Malawi, 100,000 families rely on cash income from tobacco. Tobacco farmers in Brazil number 115,000. Clearly these people would need help if they are to change from growing tobacco.

There are alternatives for land that now grows tobacco. These include cereals, pulses, bananas, coconuts, pineapples and vegetables. Every country should have a policy to diversify away from tobacco: the crop that kills — Earthscan feature.

## China battles to win hearts of foreign investors

By Mark O'Neill

Reuter

PEKING — China is battling to win the hearts and minds of foreign investors so they will introduce technology, capital and management skills despite anger about red tape, arbitrary charges and low-quality labour.

Earlier this month, China announced sweeping new rules to improve its investment climate and individual cities have followed by publishing detailed lists of incentives.

State councillor Gu Mu promised last week that China would draw up more rules to meet the needs of investors and attract more foreign capital to speed up modernisation.

"China fever is over," a North American banker told Reuters. "The next two years will be crucial. China must change the general opinion of foreigners that investing here is complicated, time-consuming and in the end unprofitable."

If it does not succeed, investment may not come here for a long time," he added.

The new regulations offer Sino-foreign joint ventures management autonomy, protection against arbitrary charges, quicker approvals and preferential terms for ventures which make goods for export or introduce new technology to China.

The new regulations have drawn a mixed reaction from the foreign business community in China.

"They are a major step forward in China's legislation regarding foreign investment," one Western diplomat said.

But he said they were too brief, did not give access to the domestic market which investors wanted, and there was no guarantee that local authorities would carry them out.

"The top leadership is very serious about foreign investment. That is clear. But will the bureaucrats at the local level, many inexperienced and fearful of taking responsibility, carry through the improvements?" he added.

One Japanese trader said the regulations would make China more attractive to investors, but it still had a long way to go. "China demands that joint ventures export but we want to sell to the domestic market."

Peking says it does not have enough foreign exchange to pay joint ventures for goods sold within China. The local currency, the renminbi, is not convertible. Foreign investment is relatively

new to Communist China. The Communists banned it after their take-over in 1949, believing that it had ravaged and exploited a weak and pliable China to swell the bank balances of foreign capitalists.

But the reformist government of Deng Xiaoping decided in 1979 that China's ageing and inefficient industry needed the high technology and up-to-date management which only foreign investors could provide.

Total foreign investment up to the end of June this year was \$5.32 billion, according to Chinese figures. But contracted investment fell in the first half of this year, the first such decline since 1979.

It was this drop, and public complaints by the American head of a factory in Peking making jeans in which American Motors Corporation has a one third share, which made the issue a priority with the national leadership.

The official capital newspaper recently quoted an official of the ministry of foreign economic relations and trade as saying China planned to attract \$10 billion in foreign investment in the 1986-90 period, about double that in the 1981-85 period.

Chinese officials blame many problems of attracting investment on lack of experience, too much red tape, the unfamiliarity of foreigners in dealing with China and greed among some officials.

Zhu Rongji, vice minister of the state economic commission, said the new regulations would give China the most competitive investment environment in east Asia, with the cheapest labour costs and minimum political risk.

The Japanese trader did not agree. "As long as emperor Deng is alive, we are secure. But when he dies, who knows what will happen? In other countries, if a party fails, it leaves power. But the Communist Party in China cannot step down," he said.

China has repeatedly said that its open-door policy will not change.

One highly visible joint venture is a car plant in Shanghai half-owned by Volkswagen of West Germany, which has taken the plunge in China where the big car firms of Japan have held back.

The Santana passenger saloons made in the plant can be seen on the streets of all China's major cities. Volkswagen hopes to win a key place in the country's car sector denied to other foreign giants who have stayed out.

A visitor to Peking in 2000 will be able to tell if German bravery or Japanese caution was the wiser course.

## Kabul's central bazaar — 'one of Asia's best-kept secrets'

By Tony Barber

Reuter

KABUL — Japanese radios, Indian tea, French soap, American toothpaste, West German shampoo, South Korean washing powder, Danish chewing-gum — you name it, the central bazaar in Kabul has it.

Raisins, walnuts, almonds, pistachio nuts, beans, ground peppers, melons, bananas, apples, lemons, tomatos, marrows — there seems no limit to the variety of foodstuffs available in the bazaar's winding, dusty alleys.

"This is one of the best-kept secrets in Asia," one veteran Asian resident of the Afghan capital said admiringly.

Dealing in imported consumer goods, home-grown fruit and locally produced carpets, clothes and jewellery, many merchants in Kabul are thriving despite almost

seven years of war between Soviet and Afghan government forces and Muslim rebels.

The buyers are mainly Afghans. Private traders control up to 80 per cent of Afghanistan's domestic trade and 45 per cent of its foreign commerce, and the Afghan government says it will continue to encourage the "national entrepreneurs," as they are officially known.

"In our country private ownership is being supported by the state, and it is developing," Afghanistan's leader, General Najibullah, told a group of foreign correspondents recently invited to Kabul.

Economic officials said the authorities provided land to the private sector at low prices and did not tax imported machinery and equipment, while banks supplied easy credit.

In agriculture, which is almost

completely under private control, the authorities point to the thousands of tonnes of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and improved cotton and sugar beet seeds which they have given to villagers.

They say thousands of landless and small-holding peasants have received land and are also benefitting from expanding irrigation systems.

Nevertheless the war has caused considerable disruption to the economy. Out of pre-war population variously estimated at 15, 17 or 18 million, about four million Afghans have gone into exile in Pakistan, Iran and Western countries.

"Mujahideen" (Islamic warrior) groups in Pakistan say the rural Afghan economy is suffering from attacks by Communist forces searching villages for rebels based in

Afghanistan. The authorities blame the dislocation on the guerrillas.

The government estimates inflation is running at an annual rate of about 20 per cent because of the war, but says that this is lower than in other developing countries.

Workers at state-run institutions — still only a small minority of the population — are cushioned against inflation by subsidised prices, while social services such as housing, education and hospitals are also being developed.

Kabul's economy has been placed under strain by an influx of villagers escaping the war that Afghan officials say has caused the capital's population to boom to two million. Western diplomats in Kabul said the figure could be even higher.

Nor is everyone thriving in

Kabul's bazaar. Several merchants and private shop-owners told Western reporters that business was down since Soviet forces intervened in Afghanistan in December 1979.

"Sometimes the Russians buy small antiques, but I have never sold them a carpet," one dealer in Afghanistan's internationally famous hand-knotted rugs said.

He said Soviet soldiers and other personnel tended to visit shops marked with the sign "tovarishch magazin" — Russian for "comrade store."

The Afghan authorities introduced a five-year economic plan this year which foresees increased extraction of raw materials, the development of construction and textile industries and improved transport systems — vital in the mountainous terrain of Afghanistan.

Soviet commerce is steadily

expanding with Afghanistan, and Moscow now accounts for 65 per cent of Kabul's foreign trade.

Almost all Afghanistan's natural gas, its main export, goes to the Soviet Union.

Western diplomats said these sales were important for Kabul since Soviet aid to Afghanistan largely took the form of loans requiring repayment rather than outright grants.

To a visitor from Moscow, it is not only the wide range of Western and Asian goods on sale in Kabul's central bazaar that causes surprise.

Bazaar merchants say they import most consumer goods through the Soviet Union because transit costs are cheaper, and they display a knowledge of international exchange rates that would impress many a foreign banker.

## Suppression of Gandhi assassination report fuels doubts

By Brahma Chellaney

The Associated Press

NEW DELHI, India — Two years after Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was fatally shot by two Sikh bodyguards, the government's assassination report has been suppressed and many questions remain about the slaying.

The government said two Sikh guards killed Mrs. Gandhi as she walked near her residence on Oct. 31, 1984. One alleged assassin was killed on the spot. The other, and two men convicted of helping to plot the assassination, have been sentenced to death.

Among the questions doubters ask are whether the two gunmen and two accomplices acted alone; whether a last-minute change in Mrs. Gandhi's schedule that day helped the assassins; and why Sikhs were posted as her guards despite warnings.

But the main factor fuelling doubts is the suppression of the official report.

A commission headed by Supreme Court judge M.P. Thakkar investigated the killing for more than 15 months, questioning Mrs. Gandhi's key aides and studying the evidence. Several senior security officials, suspended on charges of dereliction of duty, were interrogated for possible complicity.

But the commission's report has not been made public. The report's two voluminous books, completed in February, lie locked in a heavily guarded vault in the red sandstone interior ministry.

After a furor, parliament approved a bill in July empowering the government to

seal the report. It was the first time in India's 39 years of independence the government has persuaded parliament to seal a judicial commission report on grounds of national security.

The government refuses to say precisely why releasing the report would hurt national security. But one official offered a general explanation.

"Releasing the report would be like washing the government's dirty linen in public. It has too many names and too much information on the secret work of official agencies," said a senior interior ministry official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

He told the Associated Press the commission found major security lapses and a lack of coordination among security and intelligence agencies.

The three convicted Sikhs have appealed, and their lawyers contend the government has prejudiced their case by suppressing the report.

The Times of India newspaper described sealing the report as a step toward "institutionalising unaccountability."

However, Internal Security Minister P. Chidambaram said suppressing the report was justified by the "unprecedented inquiry in unprecedented circumstances."

According to court testimony, police inspector Beant Singh and security guard Satwant Singh fired more than 20 shots at Mrs. Gandhi from close range as she walked in an interview with British filmmaker and actor Peter Ustinov.

Commandos killed Beant Singh, the alleged mastermind, at the scene and wounded Satwant

Singh. Police say the assassins were avenging the military assault on the Golden Temple that Mrs. Gandhi ordered five months earlier to drive Sikh extremists from the holy Sikh shrine.

A New Delhi district judge convicted Satwant Singh, 22, of the killing. He also convicted Kehar Singh, an elderly uncle of the dead assassin, and police inspector Balbir Singh of plotting the murder.

The District judge, Mahesh Chandra, has since been elevated to the high court. His promotion, also breaking convention by superseding two more senior judges, was seen by many lawyers as a reward from the government for accepting its version of the

assassination.

The Delhi district bar association described his promotion as a blatant case of favouritism and indicated he had been rewarded for his judgment.

The promotion triggered a crippling protest strike by District lawyers.

The concealment of the assassination report has been severely criticised in the parliament and press. Several magazines have published stories pointing out holes in the government explanation for the attack.

Few Indians doubt that Satwant and Beant Singh shot Mrs. Gandhi. Public questions on the murder have focused on the

possibility of a wider conspiracy. Doubts have been expressed whether the government has named all the conspirators.

Ram Jethmalani, the lawyer for the two co-conspirators, contends the report was suppressed because it "showed up the involvement of others" in the murder conspiracy and would have weakened the prosecution case on appeal.

Among the issues still being debated are:

— How true is a statement police said Satwant Singh made to them that Beant Singh advised him to be careful not to hit R.K. Dhwani, Mrs. Gandhi's chief aide, because "he has done so many favours for us?" Dhwani, who was walking next to the prime

minister, has accused "some high-ups" in the present government of trying to implicate him.

— Why were Sikh security guards posted at Mrs. Gandhi's residence when intelligence organisations had recommended their removal? Why didn't security agencies, as the government conceded, check the background of the Sikh bodyguards?

— Who was the mysterious person who called the filmmaker, Ustinov, and changed Mrs. Gandhi's appointment from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.? The change supposedly helped the two assassins to come together and carry out their plan.

## Couple struggling with AIDS after son's death

By Marcia Dunn

The Associated Press

CRESSON, Pennsylvania — There has been no reprieve from pain for Patrick and Lauren Burk since they lost their infant son to AIDS.

Anger, guilt and fear haunt Burk, a hemophiliac who apparently contracted the deadly disease from blood products, and his wife, who has AIDS-related symptoms.

"There are days I just don't want to get out of bed. I just don't want to see the world," Mrs. Burk said recently.

"I get very upset. I get very disgusted when he (Pat) doesn't feel good. Those are my worst days. You're just always wondering, 'Is he going to get so sick he's never going to get

better?'" she said.

Her husband, a quiet, frail man of 28, was stricken with the AIDS virus, which destroys the body's ability to fight off disease, apparently from his regular doses of blood clotting concentrates. He unwittingly passed it on to his wife, who became pregnant with their son, Dwight.

The baby contracted the disease before birth, becoming the world's first reported case of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in the child of a hemophiliac.

Dwight died Dec. 13, 1985, at 20 months of age.

"The thing that's in my mind constantly is the day he died," Mrs. Burk said, staring at her lap and twisting her fingers. "That's what haunts me the most, hearing, 'Mrs. Burk, his heartbeat is only 10. Mrs. Burk, he's gone.'"

The couple's sole relief has been

Nicole, a healthy 5-year-old from Mrs. Burk's first marriage.

"She's really helped us," Mrs. Burk said. "When we cry, she says, 'Mommy, why do you cry now for him when he doesn't have any tubes and he's not hurting anymore?'"

Coping with Dwight's death has been particularly difficult for Burk. In May, he nearly died of an overdose of sleeping pills that his wife called accidental.

"He doesn't talk a lot" about Dwight's death, Mrs. Burk said. "But I know he feels totally responsible."

Early last year, a British medical journal, The Lancet, identified Dwight as the first child of a hemophiliac to be born with AIDS.

His case prompted the National Hemophilia Foundation in April 1985 to advise the approximately

20,000 U.S. hemophiliacs to postpone having children until more could be learned.

Mrs. Burk, a diabetic, suffers from AIDS-related complex, an illness that doesn't necessarily lead to AIDS. Her symptoms include swollen lymph nodes, weight loss, exhaustion and a persistent cough.

Although she could return to her job as a registered nurse at a home for the mentally retarded, she prefers to stay home and care for her husband, a former nurse's aide, who has been unable to work for nearly two years.

The family relies on donations to a trust fund to offset medical expenses. They are suing a Pittsburgh hospital, a blood bank, three doctors and six pharmaceutical firms over Dwight's death.

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## White Crusader edges Canada II by a metre

FREMANTLE, Australia (AP) — Terry Neilsen, skipper of Canada II, is still not sure he lost to White Crusader in Tuesday's America's Cup challenger series.

England's White Crusader, skippered by Harold Cudmore, won the race by 0.0295 in what has been described as the closest race ever in an America's Cup event. Observers said there was about 0.9 metre between the two boats at the finish.

Neilsen said his bowman thought they won the race, and maybe it would be nice to have photos of the finish. But the 28-year-old Olympic bronze medal winner from Toronto, said the race committee's decision is final.

"That's sailboat racing," he said. The victory kept White Crusader in third place in the series, three points behind the two leaders, New Zealand and America II. New Zealand, helmed by Chris Dickson, defeated Eagle, helmed by Rod Davis. The Kiwis defeated the Newport Harbor, California, boat by three minutes, 42 seconds. America II with John

Kolius at the wheel defeated Azura by one minute, 30 seconds.

In other races, French Kiss staved off a late challenge by USA, Italia defeated Heart of America and Stars and Stripes routed Challenge France.

Cudmore, who defended Neilsen's tactics on the final beat, faces an even more difficult challenge Wednesday when White Crusader comes up against America II, while New Zealand also faces a tough afternoon in a meeting with French Kiss.

"We're ready for America II," Cudmore said. "They are a good boat and I hope that we have fair breezes for the race. In our first meeting, which they won, the breezes were light."

French Kiss tactician Bertrand Pace said he believed his boat had an excellent chance against the Kiwis. "We led the all the way until the final 200 yards (182 metres) in our first meeting during

the opening round," he said.

Cudmore and Neilsen were even at the start, but White Crusader took the lead only to lose on a wind shift which favoured the Canadians. At the mark Canada II was one minute, two seconds ahead.

Crusader gained 53 seconds on the second windward beat but failed to gain until the final leg. All of the races started in light winds ranging around three knots, but they picked up during the race and by the finish were blowing at 17 knots.

Tom Blackaller blamed two early wind shifts on the first windward beat for USA's loss to French Kiss. "After those early shifts we held our own, but Kiss deserves credit for holding us off on the final leg when we closed the gap to around 40 seconds," he said.

The first round robin series provided one point for each victory. The current series gives a winner five points. The upcoming third series will give winners 12 points.

The top four scoring boats move into the semi-finals on Dec. 28.

## Hagler, Leonard to fight

NEW YORK (R) — Undisputed world middleweight champion Marvelous Marvin Hagler and former world welterweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard will fight next April in a 12-round title bout in Las Vegas for a guaranteed \$23-million purse, promoter Bob Arum announced.

Hagler, who has held the middleweight title for six years, will receive \$12 million and Leonard will be guaranteed \$11 million, Arum said at a packed news conference, Monday.

The fighters will also share up to 75 per cent of money earned above \$28 million for what Arum said will be the biggest payday in boxing history.

Leonard, 30, will be coming out of retirement for the third time and said "it is not a career, but one fight. That's what gets me up. One fight. That's all."

Hagler, 32, said he agreed to Leonard's stipulation for a 12-round bout between the two Americans, even though "I still believe in fifteen-round fights. But I look at the contract and when you see twelve million dollars staring at you, are you going to argue over three rounds?"

Leonard, a gold medalist in the 1976 Olympics, first retired from boxing after suffering a detached retina while training in 1982, but

returned to fight relatively unknown American Kevin Howard in 1984. Although he stopped Howard in the ninth round, Leonard generally was lacklustre and retired for the second time.

Arum made a special effort to insist that Leonard's eye has healed enough for him to fight again.

Dr. Louis Angioletti, a New York eye specialist hired by Lloyds of London, the world's largest insurance broker, to examine Leonard said the fighter is in no "greater risk than any fighter" to incur damage to his eye.

The glib Leonard, who in recent years has been a boxing commentator for an American cable television company, went on at length to analyse Hagler's ability and pay tribute to the champion.

At one point, Leonard, who is 33-1 with 24 knockouts, said that before the two fighters "put on their fight faces" he wanted to thank Hagler for giving him a title shot. Leonard, dressed in a white suit, walked across the stage to shake hands, but the shaven-headed Hagler just stared ahead.

"Apparently, he has his fight face on already," Leonard quipped.

## Lendl pulls out of EEC tourney

ANTWERP, Belgium (AP) — Ivan Lendl pulled out of the \$920,000 European Community Championship Tuesday, two days before he was due to start playing in the world's richest indoor event.

ECC organisers said the world's number one player told them he was still suffering from the hip tendinitis that also forced him to withdraw from the Los Angeles Grand Prix tournament last September.

Lendl, the number one seed here, was due to open against American Jimmy Arias on Thursday. He will be replaced by Jean-Philippe Fleurian of France who initially was eliminated in a qualifying round.

Last year, Lendl won the ECC tournament for a third time in five years and captured the ECC trophy, a gold-and-diamond tennis racket valued at more than \$700,000.

His pullout was a serious blow for the 1986 ECC, which was already suffering from a dearth of top stars. A new ECC trophy has been made — this time valued at a million dollars, courtesy of Antwerp's diamond cutting industry — for the player who wins the ECC three times between now and 1990.

The ECC has always attracted big name players since it began in 1982. Last year, eight of the world's top nine players vied for the ECC title.

Lendl's no-show leaves the 1986 ECC with only Yannick Noah of France, John McEnroe of the United States and Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia as the main attractions.

## NYC Marathon reaches limit

NEW YORK (AP) — In an unusual twist of fate, the success of the New York City Marathon has created problems, race director Fred Lebow admitted Monday.

One day after what he called "our most successful marathon ever" in the 17-year history of the race, Lebow said, "I think we've reached our limit. This is it."

He was referring to the size of the field, which reached 20,502, the largest ever for a marathon in the United States. Of those starters — revised from Sunday's figure of 20,141 — a total of 19,412 finished.

Those huge increases over last year's "record" totals of 16,705 starters and 15,887 finishers.

Lebow explained that when the mob of runners gathered for the start, they were "backed into the toll booths at the Verrazano (Narrows Bridge)."

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### At Talaq wins Melbourne Cup

MELBOURNE (R) — At Talaq won the Melbourne Cup, Australia's richest horse race, at the Flemington track Tuesday. At Talaq (10-1), trained by Colin Hayes and ridden by Michael Clarke, beat Rising Fear (50-1) by a long neck. Sea Legend (20-1) was a neck behind in third place. The winner, owned by Sheikh Hamdan Rasheed Al Maktoum, is a six-year-old by the 1973 English Derby winner Roberto from My Nord.

### Americans climb Mt. Kangtega

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Three Americans and a Canadian have climbed the 6,779-metre Mount Kangtega, Nepal's tourism ministry said Tuesday. Kramer Smith Jr., 33, Craig Reason, 23, and Hesse Mark, 36, all of the United States, and Canadian Paul Robert Teare, 27, reached the peak last Wednesday, the ministry said.

### Longo seeks new cycling mark

GRENOBLE, France (AP) — After setting a world record for the fastest 5,000 metres, French cyclist Jeanne Longo will be attempting another kind of mark Friday — the longest distance covered in one hour on a bicycle. Longo gave an indication that she is in top form Sunday night when she cycled 5,000 metres in a 6 minutes 22.713 seconds, to better her own women's record of 6:29.606. She set the new mark at the professional cycling race of the six days of Grenoble on an indoor track.

### Lendl, Becker top standings

NEW YORK (R) — Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia maintained his commanding lead and Boris Becker of West Germany remained in second place in Grand Prix points standings which will determine the eight players who will compete in the masters in New York beginning Dec. 3. Lendl, with 4,801 Grand Prix points, and two-time Wimbledon champion Becker, with 3,335, are the only two players who have clinched berths in the masters. But there was a great deal of movement among the players vying for the remaining six spots.

### FIFA considers Brazil for World Cup

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — International Federation of Football Association (FIFA) President Joao Havelange met Monday with Brazilian President Jose Sarney about holding the 1994 World Cup in Brazil. Havelange said he told Sarney about all the conditions Brazil has to meet in order to be the host for the international soccer championships, which are held every four years. "We have to have more telesees, stadiums, everything in perfect condition," said Havelange, who is Brazilian. "The shape the stadiums are in now wouldn't meet FIFA requirements."

### Cricket Cup gets underway

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Australia will play reigning champion India, the West Indies will clash with England and Pakistan will meet Sri Lanka in the opening one-day matches of the 1987 World Cup cricket tournament, the International Cricket Conference announced Tuesday. The other two teams in the month-long championship, New Zealand and Zimbabwe, will play against each other in their opening match. ICC Secretary Jack Bailey of England told a news conference in New Delhi.

## West Indies down Pakistan in cricket

GUJRANWALA, Pakistan (AP) — The West Indies defeated Pakistan by 41 runs to win the second one-day international cricket match Tuesday after a fine partnership of 115 runs between Malcolm Marshall and Geoffrey Dujon.

The West Indies is now two up in the five one-day match series. The match had to be called off when Pakistan had yet to play six overs in its innings because of bad light. The match was awarded to the West Indies because they had scored 196 runs in 43 overs, deducting the seven overs in which Pakistan had bowled maidens.

Pakistan in reply had a score of 155 runs in 43.5 overs when the match was called off.

Marshall, who scored 66 runs, was declared man of the match. Javed Miandad led Pakistan in the absence of captain Imran

Khan, who had injured an index finger during the Faisalabad test last week.

Pakistan won the toss and put the visitors to bat first. Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes opened the innings against the bowling of Wasim Akram and Salim Jaffer. Pakistan had an early success when Greenidge was caught by Salim Yusuf off Salim Jaffer for 10 runs.

Pakistani bowlers Akram and Salim Jaffer did well and contained the West Indian batsmen. Only three runs later Salim Jaffer and Salim Yusuf struck again when they dismissed Haynes for nine runs.

With no addition to the West Indies total, Salim Jaffer had his third success when he swept Augustine Logie lbw for zero. The West Indies were now struggling at 22 for three.

Richie Richardson and West Indies skipper Viv Richards put a halt to the landslide, adding 45 useful runs to take the score to 67 for the tourists.

At this stage Pakistani bowlers struck two quick blows, getting rid of Richardson and Richards. First, Manzoor Elahi trapped Richardson lbw for 24 runs and Abdul Qadir had Richards caught by Tauseef Ahmad for 17 runs.

The West Indies were now five wickets down for 67 runs.

Dujon and Roger Harper took the score to 79 runs before Harper was lbw to Abdul Qadir.

Then came the brilliant partnership between Dujon and Marshall, which helped the West Indies reach a respectable total of 194 runs. The two batsmen added 115 runs for the seventh wicket.

Dujon and Marshall, after playing a few overs quietly, began to open up and played some very aggressive shots. Dujon, who remained not out with 57, hit 10 boundaries and two sixes, while Marshall hit nine boundaries to make 66 runs.

When the allotted 50 overs had been bowled, the West Indies had a score of 196 runs for seven. Marshall was run out on the fifth ball of the last over. Winston Benjamin was not out for two runs.

## Cricket board announces stiff fines for slow play

NEW DELHI (R) — Teams in next year's World Cup tournament in India and Pakistan face hefty fines for slow play, the International Cricket Conference (ICC) World Cup subcommittee said Tuesday.

Chairman Jack Bailey said, under the graded fining system, the heaviest penalties would be in the final in Calcutta early in November. Either finalist bowling four fewer overs than the 50 stipulated in the allotted time would be fined \$39,000.

A finalist bowling only 49 overs will be fined \$5,600. There will be lesser fines in the earlier stages but any semifinalist falling four overs

short will be fined \$24,200.

In theory, a team playing extremely slowly throughout the tournament could end up with fines of around \$70,000.

Bailey said the penalties were aimed at "improving performance so that teams would bowl 50 overs a session."

He noted that during the recent six one-day internationals between India and Australia neither side had achieved the full 50 overs.

In the event of a team falling short by five or six overs the authorities would have to think of an appropriate fine, Bailey said.

## Canter advances in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Jonathan Canter, the highest seeded player in action, straight-settled fellow American Todd Nelson in the first round of the \$435,000 Stockholm Open Scandinavian tennis championships.

Canter 21, displayed a strong serve-and-volley game to prevail 6-4, 6-4 on the Royal Tennis Hall's Plexipave courts. The

youngest player ever to receive a world ranking at 14 in 1980, Canter is seeded no. 14.

Three other Americans advanced to the second round. A total of 17 U.S. players made the 56-man singles draw of the tournament, which has traditionally been dominated by Americans. John McEnroe, who is not returning this year, gave the U.S. its 11th win in 1985.

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LOSIN'IT

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Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198

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Performances 12.15, 3.00, 5.00, 8.45





## UAE official calls for taxes on business profits

ABU DHABI (R) — A senior United Arab Emirates (UAE) economic official has suggested taxes on business profits to help finance the federal budget.

Sheikh Atiq Abdul Rahman, assistant undersecretary at the ministry of economy and commerce, told Al Bayan newspaper in remarks published Tuesday that local and foreign companies in the UAE were now enjoying government services free of charge.

"It is reasonable to conduct a

study on imposing taxes on revenues of these companies which are earning a lot of profits in implementing government projects," he said. "This will constitute an alternative source of government income."

The supreme council, the UAE's highest authority, asked the cabinet last month to find alternative sources of revenue to help cut a projected 1.19 billion dirham (\$322 million) federal budget deficit in 1986.

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equity prices ended mixed after fluctuating narrowly in a session starved of major influences, with interest centred on leading issues and special situation stocks. The FTSE 100 share index was 2.3 points down at 1636.9 at 1530 Tuesday.

A slow downward drift in prices, mostly due to lack of interest, gave way to some selective buying interest, helped in part by news a U.K. opinion poll shows the ruling Conservative Party has overtaken the main opposition Labour Party, dealers said. However, the rally ran out of steam under the influence of a lower opening on Wall Street. A larger than expected fall in U.K. October official reserves had little impact.

Government bonds closed with losses of around 3/16 point as sterling eased slightly, losing one basis point in trade weighted terms at 68.6.

In the leading issues ICI ended 2p down at 1,092. Cable and Wireless lost 9p to 318, and Jaguar fell 2 1/2p to 512 1/2. Oxford Instruments declined 14p to 442 after disappointing results Monday, while BAT firmed the same amount, helped by a broker's recommendation and a stock shortage, dealers said.

## London exchange rates not received

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

### FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, NOV. 5, 1986

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** You are able to put into motion some very good thinking. Forge ahead in the future with more harmony and accord with those you associate with.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Decide just which policies you wish to follow in both personal and business matters and then follow them.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** If you are charming and show you are an expert you can get along fine with persons in business.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** A good morning to meet with associates and discuss joint matters. Plan how to improve your status in public life.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** You have fine ideas for making your surroundings more charming and functional.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** Use your talents more wisely and be practical in handling your affairs. Buy a nice gift for the one you love.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** If you are tactful and sweet at home you can settle the situation nicely. Get your creative ideas across.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Be direct in showing a newcomer that you are friendly. The evening is ideal for entertaining guests.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** The evening is the best time for communicating with others. Handle all of your assets more wisely.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Plan intimate activities for the days ahead. Delve into practical matters with enthusiasm later on.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Your imagination is working fine today. Enjoy the romantic side of life and then be with good friends.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Take that trip that is important to you. Be more practical where a secret desire is concerned.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Contact influential people and get advice on how best to handle your important affairs. Be charming.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** he or she will have a great thirst for knowledge and comprehension. Upon reaching adulthood your progeny will have become a practical and cooperative person and will see success. Add foreign languages to the school curriculum since much travel is possible here.

## Soviet Union calls for greater economic efficiency in Comecon

VIENNA (R) — The Soviet Union has criticised the goods it receives from the communist trading group Comecon in return for Soviet oil and raw materials and called for greater efficiency within the group.

Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov told other Comecon premiers in Bucharest Monday that the group's working methods could not "ensure the intensification of the economy," the official Soviet TASS news agency reported.

Speaking on the opening day of a three-day meeting of the Soviet-led group, he said Moscow's allies were receiving adequate supplies of fuel and other raw materials but were not paying for them with goods of sufficient quality.

## Major airlines may lose \$800m

MONTREUX, Switzerland (R) — Major airlines face collective losses this year of up to \$800 million, partly because terrorism has scared would-be travellers, the head of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said Monday.

The airlines' likely plunge into the red, after modest profit last year and despite lower fuel costs, was also blamed on a weak dollar and the Chernobyl nuclear accident in a speech by IATA Director General Guenter Eser.

Mr. Eser was making an opening statement to the annual meeting of the 147-member airline trade association.

The lower dollar made it more expensive for Americans to travel abroad. Chernobyl, like terrorism, scared some people from visiting parts of Europe.

"I don't think any of us were prepared for how weak 1986 is proving to be. Of course, we could

"The export potential of every country should be widened, first of all through the manufacture of the latest equipment," he said.

Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, has harshly criticised Comecon since he came to power in March 1985, saying its structures must be improved.

Last April he told the East German Communist Party congress: "We need courageous experimentation, the removal of bureaucratic barriers and outmoded ways of thinking."

Comecon, which comprises the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Mongolia, Cuba and Vietnam, relies on Moscow for virtually all its oil and natural gas.

Comecon members repay

Moscow in goods, but have tended to export their best products to the West for hard currency and send lower quality goods to Moscow and other allies, according to Western diplomats.

The regular Bucharest meeting is also reviewing an ambitious nuclear energy programme aimed at offsetting dwindling natural fuel resources within Comecon.

Hungarian Prime Minister Gyorgy Lazar complained that irregular electric power supplies to his country had caused "serious harm to the Hungarian economy," the Hungarian MTI news agency reported from Bucharest.

Under the nuclear energy programme under review in Bucharest, the construction of nuclear power plants is to be stepped up.

Mr. Eser criticised airlines for increasing capacity despite the minimal increase in the number of people travelling.

IATA President Mohammad Mekouar, Royal Air Maroc's chairman and chief executive, said some members' push for a greater market share had offset any benefit from lower fuel costs.

"Admittedly, we have not displayed the necessary discipline to control the improved productivity that we could have expected from a reduction in the cost of fuel," he said.

Mr. Mekouar said preventing terrorism was a major priority for IATA, which has sent security inspectors to 24 airports.

"However, I believe that this problem is primarily the responsibility of states. Progress in combating terrorism depends first and foremost on their will," he said.

## African states seek foreign investment

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Nine southern African states, seeking to cut their dependence on white-led South Africa, Monday launched a bid for \$1 billion in foreign investment.

Zimbabwe President Canaan Banana told about 200 prospective investors and financiers from Europe, the Americas and Asia that the five-day investment promotion conference he was opening came "at a critical time in the history of southern Africa, with the issue of sanctions against South Africa looming on the horizon."

The nine countries seeking funding for industrial projects are members of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), set up in 1980 to reduce dependence on South Africa, the region's industrial giant.

SADCC is comprised of Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

This week's meeting was organised by SADCC in conjunction with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), and

financed by the U.N. Development Programme.

Mr. Banana told delegates that any money they put into the 162 proposed projects would "not only be a simple business investment, but an investment with moral force, as it would put the investor on the side of those struggling for justice."

He added that it should be "clear to all that the South African racist regime is not about to seek any real accommodation with its neighbours in the light of the escalating violence in that country."

"Indeed, it can be expected to be more aggressive as it feels more and more isolated, and the pressures for freedom within that country become impossible to

contain," Mr. Banana said.

He urged investors and donors to fill the gap that would be created in the availability of a wide range of commodities in SADCC states if total economic sanctions were imposed against South Africa because of its racial policies.

Referring to the fact that SADCC states are heavily dependent on South African ports and transport routes for their imports and exports, Mr. Banana assured potential investors that alternative routes would be made viable.

He added that SADCC was also looking into upgrading the port of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, and that use of the Benguela rail line in Angola was under examination.

## Egypt discovers large oilfield

CAIRO (OPECNA) — Egyptian Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandil announced Monday that a large oilfield had been discovered in the Western Desert. Details of what is being described as the biggest field in the region will be made public shortly, he said. A pipeline is currently being built to carry oil from the Western Desert to the country's export terminals. The minister said "Amal" another new oilfield in the Gulf of Suez, would come onstream within 18 months after the completion of production and shipping facilities on the western coast of the Gulf of Suez. A Kuwaiti-Egyptian company is developing the field in collaboration with a French firm.

## Foreign competition poses danger to service industries in U.S., researchers warn

BOSTON (AP) — Service industries in the United States, which include everything from airlines to stock brokers to fast-food restaurants, are in danger of falling prey to foreign competition, two researchers warn.

"Many U.S. markets for services are no safer from foreign competition than were domestic markets for manufactured goods. To suffer the beating there that we have already endured in manufacturing would be a national disaster," said Professor James Quinn of Dartmouth College and his research assistant, Mr. Christopher E. Gagnon.

Professor Quinn and Mr. Gagnon, writing in the November-December issue of the Harvard Business Review, say that signs of foreign intrusion into the U.S. service economy are already apparent.

"Many of the great names in services — names like Twentieth Century-Fox, Stouffer's Hotels and Restaurants, Intercontinental Hotels, Saks Fifth Avenue, Marshall Field, Spiegel, A and P, Grand Union and Giant Food — have foreign owners now," they wrote.

Professor Quinn, a management professor at Dartmouth's Amos Tuck School, said the importance of the service economy must be properly understood in order to take preventive action. Service jobs account for more than 68 per cent of the U.S. gross national product and 71 per cent of its employment, the authors said.

"Services are actually all those economic activities in which the primary output is neither a product nor a construction," they wrote.

Professor Quinn said the United States has been ignoring warning signs of foreign incursion into the service sector. The balance of trade in services in favour of the United States has been dropping, they said, from \$41 billion in 1981 to \$21.4 billion in 1985.

The most serious losses have

occurred in travel and transportation-related industries, according to the authors.

They said U.S. international airlines such as Trans World and Pan American "have fared poorly at the hands of foreign competitors like Swissair and JAL (Japan Air Lines), which have made heavy long-term investments in their fleets and paid close attention to the quality of care given passengers."

Many U.S. service industries, such as financial services companies, have improved their efficiency and lowered their costs through computerisation and improved communications systems. But, Professor Quinn and Mr. Gagnon warned, these technologies make it easier for foreign firms to gain a foothold.

"It is difficult for well-run service establishments to maintain their competitive advantages when everyone can buy the same hardware and software and connect into the same networks," they said.

"Large Japanese and European banks have already expanded into U.S. markets. NEC (the Japanese electronics giant) has carved out a potent position at the crucial interface between computers and communications. And large European and Asian distribution companies have proved they have the talent and resources to acquire and manage underperforming U.S. retail networks," the researchers added.

Deregulation, which has benefited domestic transportation, communication and financial services companies, has also allowed foreign firms to enter the U.S. market, the researchers said.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported Monday that the U.S. dollar

dropped 21.45 per cent in value in the year after five major financial powers decided to reduce its worth.

A major purpose of the push was to bring U.S. trade into better balance, cutting imports and increasing exports. Imports have started to come down a bit — \$30.1 billion in September against \$30.9 billion in August — but exports dropped as well.

The U.S. deficit in world trade this year is expected to reach \$172 billion compared with 1985's record \$148.5 billion.

In September 1985, U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker met with his counterparts from Japan, West Germany, Britain and France in New York. They decided to work together, buying and selling on world markets when needed, to drive down the price of the dollar, which had already begun to fall in February.

But, said Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., despite the drop that has occurred, the price of the dollar Monday was still 1.1 per cent above its average level for the years 1980-82.

Leaders of other countries were concerned because the high dollar was attracting money from their people and forcing them to keep interest rates high in the effort to keep funds from going to the United States.

The decision to cooperate in bringing the dollar down was a major change in policy for the administration of President Ronald Reagan, which strongly emphasised letting markets determine prices.

The calculation by the IMF compares the dollar's price with those of many individual currencies in what it calls its multilateral exchange rate model. It takes into account the size of the trade between the countries concerned.

In contrast to the drop in the dollar, Japan's currency rose by 55.57 per cent during the year from September to September, and the West German mark rose by 40.43 per cent.

## British Gas sale to be world's largest

LONDON (R) — The British government will raise around £6 billion (\$8.4 billion) from the sale of national gas utility British Gas in the world's largest stock market flotation, merchant bankers N.M. Rothschild said last week.

The bank, handling the offer for the government, said it would involve the sale of more than four billion shares, each priced at not more than £1.5 (\$21), early in December. Around 20 per cent would be sold in outside Britain in Europe, North America and Japan.

"Because of the investment attractions of British Gas, the special incentives for individual investors and the high prospective yield, we expect millions of people to apply for shares," said Mr. Michael Richardson, a managing director of Rothschild.

He said British Gas was forecast to achieve 1986-87 pre-tax profits exceeding £1 billion (\$1.4 billion). The previous record flotation was set by the 1984 sale of British Telecom, the nation's telecommunications networks, which raised £3.9 billion (\$5.5 billion).

With elections expected next year, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is accelerating a privatisation programme, which has already seen major state enterprises sold off. The opposition Labour Party has pledged to reverse the tide if it wins power.

The government, which wants more ordinary people to own shares, has said it intends to follow up the British Gas sale by denationalising British Airways early next year for an estimated £1

billion (\$1.4 billion).

Analysts say the extra revenue will help the government to fulfill its long-standing pledge to cut income tax before the poll and could boost Mrs. Thatcher's reelection prospects.

Rothschild said it had already received six million requests for British Gas information from the public, following an expensive television advertising campaign which will continue until the offer date of Dec. 3.

It said the offer had been deliberately pitched to attract the maximum number of small investors. All 16 million customers of British Gas who applied for shares were guaranteed a stake.

The final share price is expected to be announced on Nov. 21 and the offer would close on Dec. 3.

## THE Daily Crossword

by Melvin Karmovsky

**ACROSS**

- Witty remark
- Winner
- Charm
- Destroy
- Distinction
- Language role
- Improve
- Second image
- Pro vote
- Get away
- Summary
- Air, by
- N. Dak. city
- Myth of old time
- Crucial
- A Red Rose
- Silverheels
- col.
- Alliance
- acronym
- Permutation
- to a point
- Rail ending
- Name words
- Speed letters
- "U" — cold
- "U" — cold
- Words of understanding
- 55 mph?
- Dance step
- Pitchers
- Unpretentious
- Church
- List
- 58 Norwegian
- name
- Temperate
- Sharp shooter
- Metabolic diet
- Tattered
- Boat part
- See, Harle
- Church section

**DOWN**

- Wider
- Like some needs
- Place
- Vols seek
- Particulate
- Multitude
- Literary
- collections
- Run — (with cant)
- Portrait
- South-of-the-border bud
- Tongue-in-cheek
- Blindfold
- prophet
- Let
- the valley of
- of
- Still part
- Old Gr. city
- Supplies King
- 28 Napped
- Barren adoration
- Being Let
- 46 River to the
- Seize
- Maybe
- 48 Foot
- 47 Coast
- 46 — Soda
- 20 Stopover
- 51 Band
- 52 Fc. city
- 53 Small cavity
- 54 Lily plant
- 55 Alchemist rite
- 57 Thrill of you
- 56 Ovine sound
- 51 Give — try

## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



## JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**RUPPE**

**NIRED**

**GOTSDY**

**TIFFUL**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: SHE  IT

Yesterday's Jumbles: BRASS PRINT ENGULF KISMET  
Answer: What the shrink's nervous patient was — "SELF-TAUNT"



# Philippines sets Feb. 2 for referendum on constitution

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The election commission has set Feb. 2 as the date for a plebiscite on a new constitution that has been described as a vote of confidence on President Corazon Aquino's government.

Wilfredo Raneses, a poll supervisor, said the seven-member commission set the date Monday under authority granted by Mrs. Aquino last month.

He said the commission also had decided to void old voter lists and set aside the first two weekends in December for new registration.

A 47-member panel completed work on the draft constitution last month and proposed that the plebiscite be held on Jan. 23. Officials said they needed more time to update registration lists, which citizens' groups charge were padded during the rule of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

Mrs. Aquino scrapped the 1973 constitution one month after taking office in February and declared a "freedom" charter pending ratification of a new constitution.

The move led to charges by Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and others that her government lacked a constitutional base. Mr. Enrile and the others have called on her

to hold new presidential elections after ratification of the new document, but she has refused.

Mrs. Aquino's spokesman, Teodoro Benigno, said this month that a vote against the draft constitution would be a vote against the president.

That brought charges by Vice President Salvador Laurel that the government was trying to pressure cabinet members and others into supporting the constitution as a test of loyalty.

Mr. Laurel's United Nationalist Democratic Organisation said it was withholding a decision on whether to support ratification pending completion of a study by legal experts.

Mrs. Aquino appointed the members of the constitutional commission and has expressed support for the draft.

Among other things, the new constitution would extend Mrs. Aquino's term until June 30, 1992, ban foreign military bases except under formal treaty and

declare Philippine opposition to nuclear weapons on its soil.

About 26 million Filipinos were registered as voters in the Feb. 7 presidential balloting. All Filipinos aged 18 and over are entitled to vote.

The nation's most influential church leader praised President Aquino's peace policy Tuesday as his government prepared a response to a Communist offer of a cease-fire by Christmas.

Cardinal Jaime Sin, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Manila, also said Filipinos will see that Mrs. Aquino's divided government remains "on the right track" once a new constitution is ratified and elections are held.

Sin, who played a major role in last February's overthrow of President Ferdinand Marcos, declined to comment, however, on a rift between Mrs. Aquino and Defence Minister Enrile.

"I do not like to think about that," Sin told reporters invited for breakfast at his suburban Manila home.

Sin added that unlike Marcos' time when "moral questions were involved," clergymen should let laymen solve government problems.

The draft constitution, which Sin described as "perfect and

beautiful" because of safeguards against abortion and martial law, calls for local and national elections next year.

Sin said many of the rebels were not really Communists but people who were disgruntled under Marcos' 20-year rule and had gone to the hills in desperation.

Meanwhile, eighteen people have been killed in fighting between Communist rebels and government troops in Lanao Del Norte province on Mindanao Island, the army said Tuesday.

An army spokesman said the casualty report was based on information from Lanao Del Norte, but he was unable to say how many of the dead were rebels.

The Philippine News Agency (PNA) reported from Cagayan De Oro, 50 kilometres south west of the battle area, that at least 58 rebels had been killed in five days of sporadic fighting.

PNA said the dead included three "top commanders" of the Communist New People's Army (NPA).

Efforts to reach army officials in the area were unsuccessful. Operators said lines were out of order.

The government is preparing a response to a rebel offer, made Saturday, for a 100 day cease-fire to take effect as early as Dec. 10.

## Alfonsin seeks U.S. support in new crisis

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine President Raul Alfonsin has asked President Reagan to support his protest against Britain's establishment of a fishing zone around the disputed Falkland Islands, a government statement said.

During a 10-minute telephone call late Monday night, Mr. Alfonsin expressed his concern to Mr. Reagan over the British action and asked for the U.S. president's "understanding and support."

At the time of the call to California, where Mr. Reagan wound up a strenuous campaign on behalf of Republican candidates in congressional elections, Mr. Alfonsin was accompanied by his Foreign Affairs Minister Dante Caputo, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli and Economy Minister Juan Vital Sourrouille, the statement said.

It gave no further details of the conversation.

Britain announced the 150-mile fishing conservation area around the islands last Wednesday and said it reserved the right to maintain a 200-mile fisheries limit around the islands in keeping with international law.

Argentina and Britain fought a 10-week war over the islands in 1982.

Mr. Alfonsin said Monday Britain had plundered Argentina and endangered peace by declaring the fishing zone around the Falkland Islands.

"This provocation could produce incidents endangering peace in the region," he said in a speech opening the 13th inter-American naval conference in Mar Del Plata 400 kilometres south of Buenos Aires.

"You know that these 200 miles correspond to Argentine waters where we had peacefully exercised our rights in accord with the international community," Mr. Alfonsin told top naval representatives from 16 countries, including the United States.

The British move came after Argentina signed model fishing pacts with the Soviet Union and Bulgaria in an area partially overlapping with a British exclusion zone around the islands.

Earlier Monday, Peru's president Alan Garcia arrived in Buenos Aires for the conference and gave his personal support to Argentina in its dispute with Britain.

"We have supported and will continue to support Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas," Mr. Garcia told reporters at the airport, using the Latin American name for the islands. "We reject the colonial pretensions of Great Britain."

Mr. Alfonsin, describing Britain's move as a "plundering of our country," told the Mar Del Plata conference that Argentina would seek a solution to the dispute by peaceful means.

"Argentina is going to make its rights respected but it will do so as a lover of peace," he said.

Mr. Alfonsin, who took power in democratic elections three years ago after a decade of military rule, said his country had shown its peaceful attitude by ending a 100-year old border conflict with Chile and calling for an end to the arms race.

Mr. Garcia has called on Latin America to give its "full and militant support" to Argentina in its dispute with Britain over fisheries limits around the Falkland Islands.

## Pakistan reportedly close to having nuclear bomb

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Pakistan is only "two screwdriver turns" from developing a small nuclear weapon, the Washington Post Tuesday reported, citing intelligence sources as saying.

The newspaper quoted one unidentified U.S. intelligence official as saying Pakistan could assemble a bomb within two weeks. Another said that in practical terms Pakistan is only "two screwdriver turns" from a completed bomb, it reported.

President Reagan has told Congress that Pakistan does not have a nuclear weapon.

The newspaper said Pakistan had detonated a high explosive device between Sept. 18 and 21 apparently to develop a trigger for a nuclear weapon, its second such test this year.

A special report by U.S. intelligence agencies concluded Pakistan would have a small nuclear weapon at an unspecified date, the Post said.

The White House warned Pakistan Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo during a visit to the United States in July that acquiring a nuclear weapon would result in the end of U.S. economic and military assistance, it said.

Mr. Reagan certified to Congress on Oct. 27 that Pakistan did not possess a nuclear explosive device, thus clearing the way for the country to receive about \$600 million annually in economic and military assistance.

Pakistan has cooperated in helping the United States funnel

millions of dollars worth of military assistance to anti-Communist Afghan rebels and has provided facilities for U.S. intelligence gathering near the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile India's ambassador to the United States on Monday expressed deep concern to Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger about a proposal to sell Pakistan some type of early-warning radar plane.

Ambassador Pratap Kishan Kaul used the occasion of a 45-minute meeting with Mr. Weinberger at the Pentagon to raise the issue "and the secretary acknowledged India's concern," said one official who asked not to be named.

The sources added, however, that Mr. Weinberger did little beyond listen to Mr. Kaul's complaint against what the Indians regard as a potential escalation of the arms race between the two subcontinent neighbours.

Officially, said one source, Mr. Weinberger still believes that Pakistan needs additional U.S. help in upgrading its air force because of the continuing war in neighbouring Afghanistan between Soviet troops and Afghan resistance forces.

The defence secretary also believes the United States can increase its level of arms cooperation with both India and Pakistan without jeopardising the balance of power in South Asia, the sources said.

## New Zealand to ratify Pacific nuclear free pact

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand will ratify the South Pacific nuclear free zone treaty which is a small but very important step in the arms control process, Prime Minister David Lange said Tuesday.

The treaty, adopted at the South Pacific Forum in Rarotonga in August last year, declares the region a nuclear free zone and prohibits the ownership, use, stationing or testing of nuclear weapons and the dumping of nuclear waste in the region.

"It is the first international arms control agreement concluded since the ill-fated SALT II accords in 1979. It is proof that progress in arms control is possible if countries have the determination and political will to make it happen," Mr. Lange said in a statement.

The treaty allows countries to set their own policies on calls by nuclear ships and aircraft and does not interfere with the passage of nuclear weapons through international waters.

Fiji, the Cook Islands, Niue, Tuvalu and Western Samoa have ratified the treaty and it has been signed by 10 of the 13 Forum countries including Australia and New Zealand.

Tonga, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands have not signed. At the Forum in Fiji this year three protocols were adopted for signature by nuclear weapon states under which they would undertake not to use, test or store nuclear weapons in the region.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation).

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said as many cuts as possible would be made through attrition. Some of the 10 about to step down are at retirement age, sources said. These were said to include Under-Secretary General Patricia Ruedas of Spain, head of administration and management.

The United States has been reported interested in nominating one of its nationals for his job, a critical one in the drive to trim U.N. expenses.

A blue ribbon panel set up to recommend changes in the U.N. management proposed that the top echelon of under secretaries general, assistant secretary general and other managers be reduced by 25 per cent for a saving of more than three million dollars a year.

Albania vows continuing enmity towards superpowers

VIENNA (R) — The successor to Enver Hoxha as Communist leader of Albania has vowed there would be no end to the long enmity between his country and both superpowers but he said steps were being taken to improve links with other states.

The declaration by new party leader Ramiz Alia was coupled with a glowing tribute to Hoxha, the orthodox Stalinist leader who dominated the tiny Balkan state from World War II until his death last year.

Alia's opening address to the party conference in the Albanian capital, Tirana, was followed by several minutes of silence in Hoxha's honour, according to Albanian diplomats in Vienna monitoring Tirana Radio.

They said 1,500 delegates from all parts of the country attended the conference, the first without Hoxha.

The meeting is expected to concentrate on ways of stimulating and modernising the economy. Western journalists were not invited.

In his speech reported by the Albanian News Agency ATA, Mr. Alia reaffirmed his party's refusal to allow trade to be used as a political lever.

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## Case against Reagan maid dismissed

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP) — The munitions smuggling case against White House maid Anita Castelo was dismissed Monday as her trial was to begin in U.S. district court, a prosecutor said. Ms. Castelo, who was on the staff of first lady Nancy Reagan, was charged with illegally trying to ship .22-caliber ammunition to her native Paraguay from Richmond's Deepwater Terminal. U.S. attorney Henry Hudson said the government decided there was no illegal intent on her part.

## Bronte birthplace goes up for sale

LONDON (R) — The birthplace of England's Bronte sisters, renowned 19th century novelists, is up for sale. Charlotte, Emily and Anne Bronte, as well as their brother Branwell, were all born between 1816 and 1820 in the one-time parsonage at Thornton, in rural Yorkshire, while their father was the local priest there. The modest three-bedroomed cottage, still featuring the original cast-iron fireplace in front of which the sisters were born, is being offered for sale as part of an estate. Agents handling the sale said they expected offers well in excess of £65,000 (\$90,000), the property's value only in terms of bricks and mortar.

## Factory closes as cobra becomes boss

NEW DELHI (AP) — An engineering factory near the beach resort of Goa has been closed for more than two months because a venomous cobra occupies the manager's office, the Press Trust of India reports. The news agency said the hooded snake first was seen spread on the factory proprietor's chair in Revoda Nadoda village on Aug. 28. Since many Hindus worship snakes, the manager and workers ran to a temple for advice and were told not to disturb the "cobra god," the agency said. It said that despite prayers and offerings — and complaints by the factory's creditors — the snake refuses to vacate and the factory remains closed.

## Thousands flock to buy crafts from unemployed

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Unemployed workers hoping to pay bills and stash away a little extra for the holidays showed off homemade knits, ornaments and woodwork during a handicraft fair set up for those with plenty of time and talent. "It's always better to work for what you get than to take a handout," said Art Campbell Jr., 22, a laid-off computer programmer who along with his father sold about \$54 worth of hooked rugs, beaded ornaments and candle mugs during the fair's first five hours. More than 12,500 bargain hunters jammed into a ballroom at Pittsburgh's Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall to shop among rows of tables loaded with items crafted by the unemployed in this once-bustling steel valley. The two-day fair was Equitable Gas Co.'s second such attempt in as many years to help brighten laid-off workers' holidays.

## Hunted radical jogs to safety

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's most wanted radical, the man suspected of masterminding last week's Seoul campus occupation, eluded capture by nonchalantly jogging through riot police lines in a track suit, police sources have said. On Tuesday Kim Sin, 22, was elected head of a "National Student Struggle Committee Against Dictatorship and Foreign Forces" during a rally grouping leftist students from 26 Seoul colleges in the grounds of Konkuk University. When police dispersed the demonstrators, Kim is alleged to have led more than 1,000 students in occupying five campus buildings. They held out until Friday morning when 7,000 police with helicopters, tear gas and water cannon ended their defiance. By this time, however, Kim was long gone. Police sources said the radical, a major in political and diplomatic studies at Seoul's Korea University, slipped out of one of the occupied campus blocks on Tuesday evening under cover of darkness, climbed a wall and sheltered in a house outside the Konkuk grounds. In the morning, the sources said, he dressed in a track suit, slung a towel round his neck and jogged past the massed ranks of riot police outside, waving and shouting cheerfully. "I'm off to the bath house."

## U.S. submarine damaged in underwater accident

WASHINGTON (AP) — One of the U.S. navy's newest nuclear-powered attack submarines sustained dents to its hull two weeks ago in an underwater accident and is undergoing repairs, the navy and Pentagon officials have said.

The officials, who agreed to discuss the matter only if not identified, said the attack submarine Augusta went into drydock last Friday in Groton, Connecticut, as a result of the accident.

During recent underway training, the Augusta struck a submerged object, which resulted in minor damage to the underside of the ship," the navy said in a written statement.

"There were no personnel injuries. The ship's nuclear propulsion plant was unaffected. The submarine has returned to her home port for inspection and

repair and the incident is under investigation."

The service refused to say when the accident happened or to fix the location of the accident site.

The sources said Monday submarine "struck something underwater" while under way and submerged two weeks ago on a routine training patrol in the Atlantic.

The officials stressed the submarine had never been in any danger of sinking. "She returned home under her own power," one said.

The navy said it would be "inappropriate to comment or speculate at this time" on what the submarine might have struck.

"The extent of damage is being evaluated now," the service said. "An initial inspection indicates denting of external ballast tank plating and the sonar dome covering."

## Lawsuit accuses TWA of negligence in bomb blast

NEW YORK (R) — A businessman has filed suit in Manhattan accusing TWA of negligence when a bomb exploded last April aboard a jet en route to Athens, sucking out four passengers who were sitting in front of him.

The businessman, Anthanasios Polyzos, 37, filed the lawsuit, asking \$1.65 million in damages, against TWA in Manhattan supreme court.

The lawsuit Monday was the first step in a class action lawsuit on behalf of Polyzos and the other passengers on the flight, according to his attorney, Martin Baron.

The lawyer said he will seek to identify all the passengers on the flight and ask them to join the suit against the airline. "We are

putting TWA on notice, not just for the passengers of flight 840, but for future flights as well," Baron said.

Polyzos, who lives in New York City, said he was on TWA Flight 840 last April 2 when the incident occurred.

The flight originated in New York with 103 passengers. In Rome, the passengers and their luggage were transferred to a smaller aircraft for the last leg of their journey to Athens. Eleven other passengers also boarded in Rome.

The blast occurred at about 10,000 feet (3,048 metres) as the jet was approaching Athens. It made an emergency landing at the airport 10 minutes later.

## British protesters ambush cruise missile launchers

LONDON (R) — Anti-nuclear protesters Tuesday ambushed a convoy of American cruise missile launchers in an operation designed to show how vulnerable the weapon systems were to terrorist attack.

The protesters said 100 demonstrators held up the convoy of 20 U.S. military transport vehicles for an hour. They daubed the launchers with paint and cut the brake cables of one of the vehicles.

The British Ministry of Defence confirmed the convoy had been delayed and said six people were arrested.

The launchers, which did not carry live missiles, were returning from a six-day exercise on nearby Salisbury Plain to their Greenham Common base near London.

The demonstrators belong to the Cruise Watch Group which monitors the movement of American cruise missiles in Britain.

"It is another example of how unarmed and untrained civilians can interrupt a NATO exercise. I hate to think what would happen if

determined terrorists decided to attack this convoy. It is obviously completely undefended and indefensible," said a spokesman for the protesters, Rob Watling.

Ninety-six cruise missiles are based at the U.S. Air Force Greenham Common complex some 80 kilometres west of London. Women protesters have held a constant vigil outside the base since the weapons' installation in 1983.

Meanwhile results of an opinion poll published Tuesday showed that Britain's young voters are divided over a pledge by the opposition Labour Party to scrap the country's nuclear weapons if it wins the next general elections.

The poll showed 48 per cent of those under 30, who include four million who will vote for the first time in the next poll, favoured nuclear weapons while 47 thought they should be scrapped.

It also showed that 52 per cent of those polled would back the return of compulsory military service, abolished in 1960 before most of them were born.

## S. Korea jails dissident

SEOUL (R) — A leading South Korean human rights campaigner was Tuesday jailed for three years after being found guilty of inciting violent anti-government protests and about 50 other dissidents went into the second day of a hunger strike.

The Reverend Moon Ik-Hwan, 68, a Presbyterian minister and leader of the United Minjung (masses) Movement for Democracy and Unification, was convicted of inciting a campus demonstration in which a student leapt from a building in flames, court officials said.

The sentence was read out after Rev. Moon left the courtroom shouting "do as you like," according to people present at the hearing.

Rev. Moon, who denied the charges, was also found guilty of helping organise a riot in the western city of Incheon last May. It

was the worst street violence since President Chun Doo Hwan came to power six years ago.

Days after the Incheon riot, while Rev. Moon was giving a speech at Seoul National University, student Lee Dong-Su set himself on fire and plunged to his death shouting anti-government and anti-American slogans.

About 50 supporters of dissident leader Kim Dae-Jung, denouncing Rev. Moon's arrest as part of a government crackdown on "democratic forces," continued a protest hunger strike into a second day.

The hunger strikers said in a statement that their protest was a bid to open the way for democracy and urged the United States to stop supporting what they described as "military dictators" in South Korea.

## Thatcher sets up AIDS cabinet sub-committee

LONDON (Agencies) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has set up a cabinet sub-committee to try to curb the spread of AIDS, in part with a national education programme, the government has announced.

"I am alarmed by the figures. I am alarmed by the trends... But I believe if we can take action now we can contain this problem," Social Services Secretary Norman Fowler said in a television interview Monday. "We should not panic."

The committee is headed by Deputy Prime Minister Lord Whitelaw and includes several other members of the 22-member cabinet, as well as their deputies from departments such as health, welfare and the Home Office.

According to official figures, 512 people in Britain have contracted AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and 250 have died. Most of the victims were homosexuals or drug addicts, the groups most vulnerable to the disease which is believed to be transmitted sexually and through the use of contaminated needles or blood transfusions.

AIDS was first reported in Britain in 1983, when there were

24 cases. Some observers say that proportionately, AIDS is spreading as quickly among Britain's population of 56 million as it is in the United States.

The Department of Health estimates that